iers appeals for calm in Berber area

GIERS (AFP) — The Algerian government appealed for calm Algeria Tuesday after Berber groups threatened all out war not Muslim militants unless kidnapped Berber singer Lounes nub was released. The Interior Ministry warned the Berbers it would not tolerate any action "which would lead the way to it would not tolerate any action "which would lead the way to rehy" in the country, already wracked by violence between the tamentalists and security forces. The Berber Cultural Moven (MCB) has warned the kidnappers to release the singer safe unharmed by 10:00 a.m. (0900 GMT) Wednesday or face with the war." Mr. Matoub is very popular within the Berber munity and has strongly opposed the fundamentalist's caming for an Islamic state in Algeria. His kidnapping on Monday a to Tizi-Ouzou by a snatch squad said to be "speaking in damentalist language" had still to be claimed Tuesday. The gray was captured outside a cafe by a group of 20 men wielding rds and sawn-off shotguns, witnesses told AFP. A leader of the and sawn-off shotguns, witnesses told AFP. A leader of the Said Tuesday that the Berbers, who make up 17 per cent of Algerian population, had already set up self-defence and lante groups and could easily "move onto the offensive."



Omani leader sends message to Saleh

ADEN (R) - Oman's Information Minister Abdul Aziz Al Rowass arrived in Sanaa on Tuesday with a message from Sultan Qaboos to President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the official SABA news agency said. The agency said the message dealt with bilateral relations and regional developments hut gave no further details. Mr. Saleh visited Oman earlier this month. His talks with Sultan Qaboos covered Sanaa's relations with neighbouring Gulf countries. He was reported by diplomats in Muscat to have sought the sultan's help in mending fences between Yemen and other Gulf Arah states. Mr. Saleh's relations with Gulf states, with the exception of Qatar, became strained during the Yemeni civil war earlier this year over their alleged sympathy with

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1994, RABI'ALTHANI 22, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

ordan reaffirms role in erusalem, cuts ties with est of West Bank Awqaf

ing instructs government to continue to support alestinians and to counter attempts to create rift

y a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AAN - Jordan on Tuesreaffirmed its resolve to one its historic role in itaining the Islamic es io Jerusalem but reished all links to all · Maslim sites in the

e decision to ioclude the im sites in the West excluding Jerusalem, Kingdom's 1988 decito sever all legal and aistrative ties with the Bank was announced le government after a let meeting chaired by Majesty King Hussein. move came as the tine National Authority) announced it wanted e control of the Muslim sites in the occupied ... ries, incloding Jeruwhich have been hisilly under the guar-

> government statement uocing the decision asised that the move

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IAN (Petra) — The

communication Cor-

ion's (TCC) board on

tay decided that abso-

priority for phone lines

i be given to hanks.

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trial areas and estates,

Dweik, acting director

al of the TCC, said. The

hoard meeting was

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acting Minister of Post

Communications Abdul-

istani delegation

VIAN (Petra) - The

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ot arrives here Wednes-

it the head of a Pakistani

amentary delegation on

ur-day visit to Jordan.

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would not have any bearing on Jordanian-Palestinian relations and reiterated that Jordan was firm and unwavering in its support for aod solidarity with the Palestinian people.
"In view of the special sta-

tus of Jerusalem and the impelling circumstances sorrounding it, and with the purpose of ensuring the con-tinuation of the Jordanian role in safeguarding the city's holy shrines in the face of any danger or tampering with such status and in a bid to forestall any attempt hy any party to exploit the vacuum that would emerge, the government has decided to uphold and cootinue Jordan's legal and administrative responsibility over the Awqaf and Islamic holy places and the Islamic indiciary in Jerusalem," said a government statement. Jordan's action is based on the "religious and bistoric mandate of guardianship it has assumed over

the years," it said. "The government has decided to consider all Awqaf

West Bank except Jerusalem as subject to the Kingdom's 1988 decision to sever all legal and administrative ties with the West Bank," it said. "Sobsequently, the govern-ment will introduce amendmeots to laws related to goverument departments in the West Bank as contained in the 1988 regulations in a manner that would ensure the implementation of the decision concerning the status of Awqaf in the West Bank.

"The government has decided to deal with the employees of Awqaf institutions in the West Bank, except for Jerusalem, in a manner that would preserve their full rights according to Jordanian laws and regulations. In this respect, the government expresses deep appreciation of the efforts of all these employees for shouldering their responsibilities and offering sacrifices that have contributed to the preservation of the holy shrines in the occu-

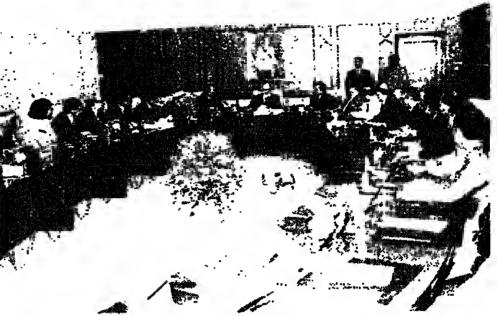
"The government, which and Islamic courts in the has been forced to take these

decisions in the light of recent developments, would like to emphasise the Kingdom's strong and unwavering solidarity with the people of the occupied territories. The government, in implementation with King Hussein's directives, will continue to provide backing and support for them through all possible means and would not allow any party to try to harm the firm and solid relations hidding the Jordanian and Palestinian people on the two sides of the eternal River Jordan."

Despite the 1988 decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank, King Hussein, a desceodent of the Prophet Mohammad, maintained his guardianship of Muslim holy sites in the West Bank.

Over the years, Jordan speot millions of dollars for the upkeep of holy shrines scattered around the West Bank and Jerusalem. Officials say the Kingdom spends \$9 milion annually for the

(Continued on page 7)



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday chairs a Cabinet meeting (Petra photo)

Peace entails non-political challenges — Crown Prince

Peacemakers are trying to

WASHINGTON (Petra) -His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has stressed that Jordan would remain committed to working for peace and enhancing democracy as well as respect for human rights.

In speeches delivered on his behalf by Information Minister Jawad Anani, the Crown Prince said that Jordan would also strive to promote free trade and security in the re-

In addresses to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, the Kensised the need for tackling

nedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Middle East Policy Council, the Crown Prince emphanew challenges at the social and economic and humanita-rian levels which would ensue in the wake of a peace treaty

essential that they reach a satisfactory settlement that can achieve justice, he said. At the multilateral phase of the peace process, Jordan is striving to settle issues pertaining to security which cannot be solved through economic solutions but father through the demarcation of

territorial rights of each party, said the Crown Prince. The Prince also proposed that a general conference on security and cooperation be held in the Middle East following the signing of a

peace treaty. Such a conference, he said, can help the countries of the region confront the challenges of the future.

handle security, borders and water issues — being the most vital issues of coocern to the two sides — and it is borders which guarantee the

State to pay for difference in water charges

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government on Tuesday announced that it would bear the difference in actual payments for the last quarter of this year resulting from a decisioo to increase the tariffs for water used for agriculture purposes and to allocate JD1 million for part of the differeoce in payments coming af-ter Jan. 1, 1995.

The decision was taken at a meeting held by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali with Lower House of Parliament Speaker Taher Al Masri, members of the Agriculture Committee of the House, Minister of Agriculture Mansour Beo Tarif and Planning Minister and acting Minister of Water and Irrigatioo Hisham Al Khatib.

Mr. Beo Tarif also announced after the meeting that the government, upon directives by His Majesty Kiog Hussein, would settle JD11 million in ioterests due on loans given to farmers by the Agriculture Credit Corporatioo (ACC) and the Jor-dan Cooperative Organisa-

King Husseio happeoed to be visiting the Prime Ministry progress and met with the participants in the talks, the Jordan News Ageocy, Petra,

The decision to increase the cost of agriculture water from six fils to 15 fils per cubic metre had drawn angry

protests from farmers. Farmers, supported by several members of Parlia-

ment, staged a sit-in last

(Continued on page 7)

PLO, Arab League protest Rabin's settlement decision

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — The Palestine Liheration Organisation (PLO) and the Arab League on Toesday protested a decision hy Israeli s and factories set up in Prime Mioister Yitzhak Rahin to allow a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank to double its population within three years.

Yasser Arafat, told AFP. He said an official reaction from the Palestinian National Authority would be pub-

lisbed later. The daily Haaretz said Mooday that Mr. Rabin had decided at the beginning of August to "unfreeze" buildiog in the Alfe Menasbe settlement which is close to the 'green line" separating Israel

from the West Bank. A list of settlements which will be allowed to restart pared hy the housing ministry, the paper added.

In Cairo, the 22-member Arah League described Mr. Rabin's decision as "a flagrant violation" of the accords signed by Israel and the PLO and "a challeoge to interna-

would ignore the construction freeze imposed hy the

Geneva Convention, which

prohibits an occupying power

the international community to "force Israel to halt its plans aimed at getting round the resolutions of international legality and obstructing

White House meeting set for

WASHINGTON (Agencies) - U.S. President Bill Cliotoo bas invited His Royal Higboess Crown Prince Hassan and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to meet at the White House on Oct. 3, the administratioo said Tuesday.

The meeting is scheduled to take place in October to mark the anniversary of the first meeting hetween the two under the aegis of the White House. That session last year created the trilateral commission hetween Israel, Jordan and the United States.

The commission laid the groundwork for the historic peace declaration signed in Washington between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on July 25. Mr. Peres, responding 10 Israeli reports indicating a

date would be set at the meeting for the signing of a peace agreement between the two countries, said in New York: "It is oot a matter of a date, it is a We must find solutions to two main issues, to the

border... and the issue of Mr. Peres is in New York this week for the U.N. General Assembly. honours. Israel's Haaretz news-

paper said sources in Washington expected the three participants would have good tidings of a breakthroogh in negotiations betweeo Israel and Jordao towards a peace

Mainstream press lags behind in democratisation — panelists By P.V. Vivekanand

and Samir Barboum Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN - Amidst the democratisation process in Jordan since 1989, the mainstream press of the Kingdom did make progress but did not rise to the level of taking the initiative and contributing to creative changes, four prominent journalists agreed Tues-

While the number of pnblications, including tabloids and political party oewspapers, has gone np dramatically in the last five years, the three established newspapers remained mostly entrenched in the traditional approach to their coverage of news, they

Nabil Al Sharif, chief editor of Al Dustour, Fahed

Fanek, a leading Al Ra'i col-umnist, Lamis Andoni, a Jordan Times reporter and the Amman correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor, and George Hawatmeh, chief editor of the Jordan Times, made the point at a two-day seminar on "The Role of the Media in a Democracy — the Case of Jordan."

Also discussed io the morning and afternoon sessions of the seminar, orgaoised hy the Centre for Strategic Studies of the University of Jordan, and funded by a grant from the Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung, a German institution, was the role of Jordao Television and Radio and media coverage of the Middle East peace process in the Jordanian media.

In the morning session, chaired by Dr. Sima Bahous, media and development con-

seoted an overview of the changes that the Jordanian media scene witnessed in the past four years.

Mr. Hawatmeh drew a clear distinction between the three pre-1989 Arahic language oewspapers — Al Ra'i, Al Dustour and Sawt Al Sbaab - and the tabloids and weeklies that came to the scene sioce then and noted that the post-1989 publications accounted for only 10 per cent of the total Jordanian readership.

As such, the Jordan Times chief editor argued, any assessment of change has to be based oo the performance of the three oewspapers in pre-1989 days and today. Mr. Hawatmeh said that if

the yardstick for measuring

(Continued on page 7)

linton, Yeltsin h

WASHINGTON (Agencies)
— President Bill Clinton hailed Tuesday a summit meeting here with Russian President Boris Yeltsin as a "historic opportunity" to smooth out lingering differences between the former

cold war rivals.

But the Russian leader admitted candidly that the oew partnership was not an

"It is fair to say that the United States is a strong partner, and not an easy one to deal with, just like Russia," Mr. Yelisin stated at an openiog ceremony on the White House lawn in which he was treated to full military

The two days of talks were to focus on widening trade and boosting U.S. investment to Russia hui the leaders were also to tackle foreign policy issues that have in the past placed the two nuclear powers at odds.

States has threatened unilaterally to lift an arms emhargo against the mostly-Muslim Bosnian government, a move staunchly opposed by

Mr. Yeltsin reiterated Moscow's opposition to lifting the arms embargo, stating at the outsel of one-on-one talks with Mr. Clinton that he would respond "negatively" to any U.S. move in that

direction.

Mr. Clinton sought to reassure the Russian leader, stating: "We have worked together every step of the way... we're going to do our

best to stay together."
President Clintoo, who greeted President Yeltsin with a handshake and a hug Tuesday, said they would discuss their differences in a

Mr. Yeltsin responded that neither America nor Russia is an easy country to deal with

more exciting" to join bands in partnership.

The dialogue between the Rossian and American presidents has begun in earnest, Mr. Yeltsin proclaimed.

At the ceremonies on the White House lawn. Mr. Clinton stressed areas of increasing U.S.-Russian cooperation and praised Mr. Yeltsin's role in reforming Russia.

He declared the two countries were "growing closer together, replacing suspicion and fear with trust and cooperation.

adversaries, hut as parmers in the quest for a more prosperous and a more peaceful planet," Mr. Clinton said.

"In so many areas, our interest no longer conflict; they coincide, and where we "climate of warm peace, no! do disagree, we can discuss our differences in a climate of warm peace, not cold war,'

hathir heads Turkey, Jordan

LA LUMPUR (AP) -e Minister Mahathir ammad left Tuesday on day visit to Turkey, Jorand Turkmenistan. His nember delegation was 1st visit Turkey, where Mahathir was expected in a tax agreement, foreunistry officials said. In lao from Thursday igh Oct. 3, the prime ster was expected to plete agreements oo tion double taxation, with accords on trade, tment, and ecocomic, tical and cultural coop-

decides not aise interest

HINGTON (AFP) Federal Reserve Board led not to raise interest Tuesday during the ing of the Open Market mittee, a spokesman for J.S. ceotral bank said. A spokesmao simply unced the session ended no announcement of bikes. The committee

tional legality which bans any "We stroogly condemn this demographic changes in the decision and we will be offioccupied territories. cially referring it to the Israelis," Marwan Kanafani, Israel has admitted that in one West Bank settlemeot it spokesman for PLO leader

government in 1992. An Israeli official, speak-

building challeoges the legal principle of not changing the demographics in occupied territory, the Arab League said. It referred to the Fourth

The decision to recew

ing anonymously, said other

settlemeots also would be expanded to bolster territorial claims in future talks with the

from moving its citizens to occupied land. Since Israel seized the

West Bank and Gaza in the 1967 Middle East war, aboot 130 settlements have been built which house ahout 120,000 Israelis. The Arah League also said

the renewed settlement construction in occupied territory was against the spirit of Israeli-PLO accords, which put off a decision oo what to do with Jewish settlemeots until talks beginning in 1996. The Arah League urged

the peace process."
Housing Minister

Bioyamin Beo Eliezer announced in July 1992 when Mr. Rahio's government

(Continued on page 7)

U.S. troops take over key buildings in Port-au-Prince

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) - American troops took over Haiti's parliameot building and city ball Tuesday, preparing for the return of Haiti's elected lawmakers and the Port-au-Prince

To clear the streets of weapons, the Americans begao their guns-for-money programme Tuesday, paying \$50 10 \$300 10 anyone who turns in a firearm.

U.S. military police stretched razor wire about 20 metres outside the parliament building, while soldiers in green camouflage uniforms patrolled the roof and stood guard inside the main gate.

A large crowd of Haitians gathered to watch, booing loodly as a truckload of Haitian police drove by

At city hall, armoured vehicles were parked just inside the compound and U.S. army jeeps with machine guns mounted on 10p stood guard outside.

The parliament was to convene Wednesday to begin dis-

of the deal worked but by the military junta and a U.S. delegation headed by former President Jimmy Carter. U.S. sources said they expected Port-au-Prince Mayor

Evans Paul to return to his office at city hall.
Mr. Paul, who was President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's campaign manager, bas been in hiding for much of the three years since Mr. Aristide was overthrown hy

the military. U.S. officials also took control of the hillside elector-al council building, a move that might indicate the United States will have a strong say in partial elections scheduled for December. In other developments: The U.N. Development

Programme said Tuesday

that its warehouse in Port-an-

Prince was ransacked and 11 tonnes of food taken. Spokesman Ian Guest esti-mated the value of food lost at \$35,000. The U.S. Air Force began taking over security Tuesday

U.S. soldier killed WASHINGTON (AFP)-U.S. soldier was found sbot to death in Haiti on Tuesday

It was the first death reported among U.S. troops who entered the country eight days ago. A soldier from the 10th Mountain Division died of an apparent gunshot today in Haiti," said Commander Joe Gradisher, a Pentagon spokesman. "On-scene au-

thorities are calling it an apparent suicide and are in-

in what appeared to be a suicide, a Pentagon spokes-

man said.

vestigating it as such," Cmdr. Gradisher said, reading from a statement. He said the soldier had beeo on duty at the Villa d'Accenil, a Haiti state quest bouse in Port-au-Prince due to house members of parliament attending a special session beginning Wednesday. No other details were

Ekeus to visit Iraq in October for more work on monitoring

MANAMA (R) — U.N. arms envoy Rolf Ekeus is to visit Iraq next month as his commission prepares for long-term monitoring of Iraqi

weaponry.
Mr. Ekeus, chairman of the U.N. Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM), would head for Baghdad in the first half of October though no date bad been fixed, spokes-man Roald Opsahl told re-

Mr. Ekeus bas said UN-SCOM would need to conduct long-term munitoring of Iraq for at least six mnnths before be can certify to the U.N. Security Council that Iraq has complied on the weapons destruction.

He said this month be hnped the process could begin by the end of September, but the issue is politically charged since it is potentially linked to an end of the U.N. oil embargo on Iraq.

The United Nations recently renewed sanctions imposed on Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait in 1990, among them an embargo nn exports of Iraqi oil.

The influential oil industry newsletter Middle East Econumic Survey (MEES) reported from Cyprus on Mnnday that because of positions taken by Iraq and by the United States, which strongly opposes lifting the sanctinns, it appeared unlikely the nil emhargo wnuld be lifted by mid-1995 as onee seemed possible

The embargo has devastated Iraq's economy and a government newspaper in Baghdad reported at the weekend that rations of staples such as flour, rice and cooking oil had been reduced

by as much as half.
Dozens of U.N. weapons teams bave visited Baghdad to destroy or neutralise Iraq's known nuclear, hiological and chemical weapons as well as ballistic missiles, as required under terms of the ceasefire ending the Gulf war in which U.S.-led allies drove Iraqi troops out of Knwait.

The inspector bave also laid the groundwork for longterm monitoring — installing video and film cameras and a data processing centre — to ensure that these weapons are not replaced.

On Monday, an 11-mem-ber U.N. chemical team returned to Bahrain, the field headquarters of U.N. missions visiting Baghdad, after an II-day informationgathering mission in Iraq. Team leader James Poarch, an American, told reporters that his team had visited all known and declared chemical sites in Iraq.

"This is a chemical protocol-building mission to take a picture of the plant or the site as it is today to record exact activities... so that we can huild a protocol with a site folder containing all the information on the site," Mr. Poarch said.

"We have visited 12 chemical production sites over the entire country - some in the north, some in the south, east and west — two of them near Baghdad," be added.

Mr. Poarch said his team had laid the groundwork for long-term mnnitnring and said there would be at least four chemical experts resident in Baghdad.

The Vienna-based International Atnmie Energy Agency (IAEA) has said it would maintain a two-member team in Iraq to overlook its longterm monitoring of Baghdad's facility.

LAEA expert Garry Dillon said this month that the IAEA was able to begin its long-term monitoring.

A U.N. inspection team said late in August that longterm monitoring of Iraq's biological technology could begin after mid-September when it completed guidelines for the programme.

Saudi gems witness emerges; story remains a mystery

prince.

BANGKOK (Agencies) — A key witness in the Saudi gems case emerged from hiding Tuesday, but refused to answer questions publicly on the case which allegedly led to the kidnapping and murder of bis wife and 14-year-

old son. Santi Srithanakan, a Bangkok gems trader, told reporters at Crime Suppression Division (CSD) headquarters the case was "up to the investigating team to whom I have given my testimony."

The 15-minute press conference, held under tight security, was Mr. Santi's first public appearance since the discovery Aug. 1 of the bodies of his wife and son in a car abandoned nn a roadside northeast of Bangkok.

Eleven people have been charged, five of them police officers, in the murder of the

On Tuesday Mr. Santi, wearing sunglasses and flanked hy two lawyers, failed to confirm allegations which had circulated widely in the local press about direct policy involvement in that kidnapping and murder.

On advice of the lawyers. he repeatedly refused to answer questions about the disappearance of millions nf dollars in gems belonging to a Saudi prince, although he admitted having returned any gems in his possession to-

police. The jewels were stolen in 1989 by a Thai servant in the prince's palace. Police recovered most when they arrested the servant who had fled home to Thailand, but only about 30 per cent were eventually returned to the

Seven police officers and one civilian are on trial for embezziement of the jewels. Seven other police officers, including a former national police chief, have since been charged as well.

Mr. Santi said Tuesday he did not know the identity of the people who kidnapped his wife and son, but had given 2.5 million haht (\$100,000) tn "had guys".

"I don't know who they were. They contacted me by telephone and I assigned a trusted friend to had over the money," he added.

He said that he personally had been detained earlier by a suspect in the kidnapping case, police Lieutenant-General Chalor Kerdthes. hut that Gen. Chalor had demanded "information" from him, not a ransom.

Mr. Santi was not allowed to answer specific questions because, said one nf his lawyers, "it might affect the case," apparently a reference to the Saudi gems trial in which Mr. Santi is both a witness and suspect.



KING VISITS PRIME MINISTRY: His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday confers with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali during a visit he paid to the prime ministry

The King was accompanied by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker (left) (Petra photo)

Ex-general criticises Tehran government

NICOSIA (R) - A nationalist former Iranian general who headed the military police after the 1979 Islamic revolution has issued a statement urging President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani tn implement democratie reforms or step down.
"The nation is in poverty

and the country is on the verge of an explosion. The derics who bave ruled the country for years are re-sponsible for this misery," Azizollah Amir-Rahimi said in the statement circulated on a limited basis in Iran. '

"The only way to save the country is through deep changes in the way the country is run, and if Mr. Rafsanjani is not capable of doing this he should concede to a national salvation govern-

Mr. Amir-Rahimi, speaking by telephone from his Tehran home, told Reuters people were widely dissatis-fied with lack of freedom and economic bardships and he

felt nbliged to speak out. "People are ready to get organised. The day a party is set up thousands of people will rally around it," he said.

There was no immediate reaction from the government to the statement. In recent years authorities bave sometimes arrested liberal pobticians who issued similar critical statements.

Mr. Amir-Rahimi, around 70, headed the military police for several months after the 1979 revoluting when the liberal Mehdi Bazargan was prime minister.

He called among other things for freeing political prisoners, reinstating officers purged from the army after 1979, returning confiscated property to their owners and investigating secret executions.

"People want to choose anyone they wish for president. They dn not want to be given a list of two nr three people and be told to choose among them," Mr. Amir-Rahimi said, referring to the vetting of the candidates by a

committee of senior elercis. Mr. Amir-Rahimi said he was the first person to become a general in Iran after revolution and had spent four years in jail under the pro-West a Shah's regime for h' nationalist views.

CIA: Iran 8 to 10 years from nuclear bombs

WASHINGTON (AP) - The' Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) believes Iran will be able to huild its own nuclear weapons in eight to I0 years, and that it is focusing on Russia as a potential source nf key materials and direction, according to the spy agency's chief.

R. James Woolsey, CIA director, told a Washington thinktank that in addition th an aggressive effort to strengthen its conventinual defences, Iran has put a high priority on acquiring nuclear weapons.

"We believe that Iran is eight to IO years away from building such weapons, and that help from the nutside will be critical in reaching that timetable," Mr. Woolsey

Mr. Woolsey spoke to a conference sponsored by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy last Friday. A text of his prepared remarks was released by the

institute Mnnday. "Iran has been particularly active in trying to purchase nuclear materials or technology clandestinely from Russian sources," Mr. Woolsey said. He did not elaborate on the Russian connection, but he added that Iran also is trying to buy fully fahricated nuclear weapons as a shortcut to becoming a nuclear power. Iran, as a signatury to the

nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), has officially foresworn any nuclear weapons ambitions. It has not acknowledged trying to build nuclear weapons.

Mr. Woolsey also sounded an alarm about Iraq's military ambitions.

While noting that enforcement of U.N. sanctions bas paralysed Iraq's nuclear weapons development, Mr. Woolsey said President Saddam Hussein is still hiding a chemical weapons arsenal and appears bent on preserving a nuclear weapons poten"Iraq has the largest pool of scientific and technical expertise in the Arab. World over 7,000 nuclear scientists and engineers alone," Mr. Woolsey said.

He said Iraq is accelerating construction of deep underground shelters and tunnels to produce and store weapons of mass destruction. such as chemical munitions.

Together, Iran and Iraq pose a significant threat to U.S. interests in the Middle East, Mr. Woolsey said, even though the two countries fought an eight-year war in the 1980s.

"These two regimes are united in their opposition to the peace process, in their willingness to use terrorism, in their efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction, and in their desire to eliminate any outside powers which could thwart their ambitions," Mr. Woolsey

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Demjanjuk leads quiet life year after release

CLEVELAND (AP) -These days, John Demjanjuk is puttering around his back yard garden, fixing things in the house and cutting the

The portly 74-year-old grandfather some say is a Nazi war criminal never discusses the seven years he spent confined to a small cell while awaiting execution in

Israel. "For the most part, things have been calm and uneventful," son-in-law Ed Nishnie said.

Mr. Demjanjuk was accused of being Ivan the terrible, a sadistic guard at the Nazi camp in Treblinka, Poland. He was convicted in Israel in 1988 of crimes against humanity. A year agn last week, he returned to the United States after the Israeli supreme court overturned his

conviction. The court said Mr. Demjanjuk's defence lawyers had found evidence suggesting that another man, Ivan Marchenko, might have been Ivan. The justices said they still believed Demjanjuk had served the Nazi regime, but

refused to order a new trial. Mr. Demjanjuk, a native of Ukraine, has always insisted he was a Red Army soldier who spent most of the war in a German prisoner-of-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

war camp. He has denied working in the Nazi camps, although prosecutors introduced evidence they said showed be had been trained as a camp guard.

As Mr. Demjanjuk tries to lead a quiet life in his modest, hrick bnme in suburhan Seven Hills, attempts have been made to disrupt it. Groups led by Rabbi Avi Weiss of the New Ynrk-based coalition of Jewish Concerns bave conducted numerous protests nn his street.

The frequency of the protests has diminished during the year. Rabbi Weiss led a protest Thursday outside Mr. Demjanjak's home tn mark the anniversary of his return.

"The wbeets of justice have moved too slowly," Rabbi Weiss said, "It's a perversion of American iustice that physically, he is a free man.

Mr. Demianiuk's family has shielded him from reporters and be has refused to grant interviews. Mr. Nishnie said Mr. Demianink won't comment until all of the questinns surrounding his U.S.

citizenship bave been settled - and maybe not even then. "Maybe he won't want to reopen any wounds," Mr.



John Demjanjuk

In Cleveland, U.S. District Judge Frank Battisti is considering a Justice Department request to reaffirm a 1984 deportation order, on the grounds Mr. Demjanjuk hed about his past on his immigration papers.

The U.S. Supreme Court is considering whether to hear the government's appeal of a ruling that the Justice Department committed fraud by withholding key evidence from Mr. Demjanjuk's de-

Justice Department spokesman John Russell said Thursday there had been no new developments in the case. However, the govern-ment is not likely to drop the matter, he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran announces flights to disputed islands

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran on Monday announced the start of scheduled flights to Abu Musa, one of three disputed islands in the southern Gulf, state-run Iranian radio reported. State-owned Asman Airlines announced that flights to the island, which is also claimed by the United Arab Emirates, will run on Sundays and Tuesdays. The first flight between the port of Bandar Ahhas and Abu Musa took place Sunday, according to the broadcast. Iran seized Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunh in 1971 as Britain wound up its colonial rule in the region. The islands are strategically located on the edge of the Strait of Hormuz, through which much of the world's oil passes as the only gateway to the Gulf. Tehran later agreed to share sovereignty over Abu Musa, the largest of the islands, with Sharjah, one of seven emirates federated in the UAE. But two years ago; Iran proclaimed itself the sole owner of the island, rekindling the dispute. Tehran in recent days has adopted a tougher line on the islands following a Sept. 18 communique by foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) urging Iran to allow the World Court to settle the territorial dispute.

iran gives dam project to guards

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's Revulutionary Guards Corps signed a 1.2 trillion rial (\$686 million) contract on Monday to huild a big dam in southwestern Iran, Tehran Radio said. The Karkheh River dam near Andimeshk, one of Inc Karkhen River dam near Andmesnk, one of Iran's biggest development projects, will irrigate 220,000 hectares of land in Khuzestan province and generate 400 megawatts of electricity, the radio said. President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who attended the signing ceremony at the energy ministry in Tehran, said the project was a great honour for the Revolutionary Guards Corps, which grew as a fighting force in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war and is estimated by Western experts to number 120,000. "Designing and implementing such projects in Iran seemed far-fetched only a few years ago... but now we can huild them with internal resources at a much lower cost than offered by foreign contractors," the radio quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying. Iran has diverted part of the engineering resources of both the Revolutionary Guards Corps and the regular army to civilian projects since a U.N.-brokered ceasefire ended the war with Iraq.

Kazakh president urges close Saudi ties

JEDDAH (AFP) — Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev called for closer ties with Saudi Arabia and encouraged businessmen to invest in Kazakhstan during meetings with Saudi officials here. Mr. Nazarbayev, who arrived in Jeddah on the Red Sea late Sunday for a three-day visit, discussed the prospects for future cooperation and the situation in the former Soviet repulbes with King Fahd. The leaders also considered the possibility of signing a friendship and cooperation treaty between their two countries. Mr. Nazarbayev met Saudi businessmen and encouraged them to invest in the Central Asian Republic, especially in the oil sector, Kazakh officials said. A Saudi hank, Al Baraka, opened a branch in Kazakhstan in 1991. Mr. Nazarbayev also asked for Kazakhstan to be admitted to the Jeddah-based Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), during a meeting with OIC Secretary-General Hamid Al Gabid, diplomats said. Two other former Soviet republics with majority Muslim populations — Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan — joined the OIC last year. The next ONL summit is due to be held in Morocco in December. Dr. "Gabid aleded to set OIC members to develop aless links Gabid pledged to ask OIC members to develop close links with Kazakhstan, an OIC statement said.

Sadat's grandson arrested for vandalism

DEVILS LAKE (AP) — The grandson of Anwar Sadar was arrested at a rural North Dakota airpott over the weekend for vandalism and fleeing from police. Police were called to the Devils Lake airport Saturday morning because of a problem with an unruly passenger on a Great Lakes Aviation flight. Police say Haytham Al Sadat, 19, apparently cut off his seatbelt with a utility knife during the flight. When the plane landed, Sadat fell to the floor and elaimed to be injured. Police say when they confronted Sadat outside the terminal, he ran and threw the knife in a ditch. He was tackled by police and taken into custody. Sadat was released on Saturday afternoon and was scheduled to appear in municipal court in Devils Lake Tuesday. Vandalism and fleeing are both misdemeanors punishable by up to a maximum of 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Sadat spent the summer in North Dakota studying business at two banks and an aerospace firm. The grandson of the late Egyptian president lives in Cairo.

Egypt to settie 3 million in Sinai desert

CAIRO (AFP) — The Egyptian government aims to settle three million people within 23 years in the Sinai desert region where only 160,000 people live at present, infficials said Monday. The development plan, costed at 75 billion Egyptian pounds (around \$22 billion), is to be adopted soon by the Egyptian cabinet, said Ahmad Radwan, minister of cahinet affairs. Under the programme \$2.4 billion would be spent on promoting tourism in the Sinai peninsula, \$3.7 billion nn agriculture and \$3 hillion nn industry. Some 430,000 jobs would be created by 2017, said Mr. Radwan, quoted by the official daily Al Ahram. The minister said jobs are a high priority in Egypt, where the population stands at 58 million and the annual growth rate is 2.3 per cent. Another \$5.6 billion would be spent on infrastructure to improve communication and transport between the Sinai and the rest of Egypt, Mr. Radwan said. The government began building two years ago the Al Salam Canal, which will stretch from the Nile across the north of the Sinai peninsula parallel to the Mediterranean. The huge irrigation project will help to develop agriculture

> . Cairo (MS) Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)

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Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

Amsterdam, New York (RJ

..... Berlin, London (RJ) Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

Cakutia, Bangkok (RJ)

..... Agaba, Cairo (RJ)

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-10

Tel: 773111-19
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St. Jeseph Church Tel. 624590.
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Armenium Catholic Church Tcl. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 657576

German-speaking Evangelical Con-gregation Tel: 684195 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel. 654932 The Evanuation Local Church in Tel. 811295

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudly with chance of showers particularly in the northern and central parts of the Kingdom. Winds will be westerly moderate to active. In Acaba, winds will be northerly

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The Evangelical Local Church in

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USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN: Dr. Mukhles Halosa Dr. Khalil Abu Marjoub .. Khaled M'addi 661912 637055 623672 248743 ZARQA: Dr. Walid Halasch ...,.....

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417 EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate

Highway Police Traffic Police ... 896390 while Security Department ... Hotel Complaints Price Complaints Water and Sewerage 297467

787111 Complaints Telephone Information (directory assistance). 010230 623101 Repairs

Abdali Telephone Repairs

Jordan Television 661101 Radio Jordan . Electric Power

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 05-53200 HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity J. Amn

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Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26 . 891611/15 Army, Marka Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 1bn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)99090 .. (02)275555 Princess Basana Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibn Al Naices Hospital (02)247100

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be veri-

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Agaba (RJ) Jeddah (RJ) Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 28:10 69:15 Larnaca (RJ) Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 09:25 15:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) Madrid (RJ) 16:35 17:25 Paris, Geneva (RJ 17:30 .. 18:10 Toronto, Montreal (RJ) Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ) Beirut (RJ)

Cairo (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday bon- Ministry of Education's Charity Box mrs students who participated in the Programme (Photo by George Crystal)

Oueen honours civic-minded students

AMMAN (J.T.) - Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuestay honoured students paricipating in the Charity Box Programme, organised by the Charitable Piaster Fund in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, according to a Royal Court

The fund, a member of the Executive Council of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), encourages students to contribute to helping the more needy sectors of the community by providing charity boxes to -- schools throughout Jordan to which students provide

donations during the school

The funds raised are distributed to outstanding underprivileged students to enable them to continue their education at schools and universities in Jordan.

The fund provides loans to students to continue their education at the Kingdom's universities and community colleges. The recipients repay the loans after graduation.

Over the last four years, more than JD 1,400,000 were raised, benefitting 1,300 students, the statement said.

Queen Noor, who is

committed to providing Jordanian students with access to quality education to fulfill their potential, also distributed certificates to outstanding students from throughout the country.

The event included performances of national songs and folkloric dances by students.

The Queen was received

by Minister of Social Development Mohammad sqour, President of the University of Jordan Fawzi Gharaibeh, and Secretary General of GUVS Abdullah Khatih and members of the executive council of

related joint ventures.

Jordan, Egypt agree to implement 1986 bilateral tourism agreement

and Egypt Tuesday said they olement a bilateral agreenent on tourism signed in 1986 and set up a joint committee to work out an executive programme for the agreement.

The decision came at a meeting between visiting Egyptian Tourism Minister Mamdoub Biltaji and his Jordanian counterpart Mohammad Adwan attended by delegations from both sides. Welcoming the Egyptian delegation Dr. Adwan underlined the two countries' coordination in tourism and other affairs for mutual benefit noting that tourism could be the prime industry for the two countries in the coming peace era.

Referring to Egypt's vast experience in tourism, Dr. Adwan said Jordan hopes to launch close cooperation with Egypt to stimulate the industry through the private sectors in both countries, adding that the two neighbours have many things in common such as their cultural background ar ' a similarity in the en-

Dr. Biltaji told his bost that the Egyptian government was keen on cooperating with other Arah states in tourism affairs and in promoting inter-Arah and inter-Islamic tourism.

The two ministers stressed their determination to work out programmes to promote tourist cooperation through concerted informational plans to market the two countries abroad and to faunch

They also said they intended to encourage their national airlines to operate flights between Agaba and Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tnesday receives Egyptian Minister of Tourism Mamdouh Biltaji (second right) who is here on a visit to discuss bilateral cooperation. Also attending the meeting were Minis-

for personnel in tourism integration. affairs and exchange other Dr. Adwan, who welcomed Dr. Biltaji at the air-The two sides agreed on port, said the visit was of organising a workshop to special significance in view of coordinate the work of the

the current developments in the Middle East. But in reply to a question, he said it was premature for Jordan to sign an Eastern Mediterranean agreement on tourism involving Israel,

Egypt and Turkey. He said

Jordan would have to careful-

fore he said the two countries

should work towards tourism

ly study the agreement and wait for the opportune moment after progress bas been achieved in the Middle East peace talks.

(Petra photo)

After the meetings, Drs. Biltaji and Adwan were received by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali who underlined Jordan's intent to cooperate with Egypt in tour-

ism and other fields. The two sides expressed a with a view to developing the

tourism industry in both

countries.

ter of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Adwan

and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Wajih Hamdi

After the meeting with Dr. Majali, the Egyptian minister described the talks as excellent, adding that the Jordanian officials briefed him on the contacts Jordan held lately with Israel in the field of

Dr. Adwan said that the talks were very useful as they led to the formation of an expert group to stimulate hidesire to exchange expertise lateral cooperation and an agreement on future coordination in regional tourism.



y a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

MMAN - Jordan's water ector, one of the key segents that are undergoing ajor reforms, is expected 1 benefit considerably gned by the European (EU) covering 11 illion European currency

: "35'42'2' mits (ECUs), or about \$15 ullion in assistance. Projects covered under ne assistance "has a parcular relevance at a tire f water shortages in Jc1an," said a monthly newsetter of the Delegation of Commission of the Euroean Communities in Jorian, the executive arm of

he European Union: It noted that the project avolves "not only the reabilitation and extension of water supply systems in Karak, Tafileh and Shobak, aut also the provision of listribution systems from mailer sewage treatment plants for the reuse of treited waste water in the outhern and northern re-

A third part of the pro-ect provides for training and advice on the manage-nent nad operation of all sewage treatment plants in . the Kingdom.

A EU-financed study — "Review of Water Resources, Development and Use in Jordan" - identified the focus of the projects and recommended that grant funds should be outside Jordan's bigger urban areas."

"The new agreement continues a long-standing commission policy of supporting developments in key sectors of the Jordanian economy," said the newsletter.

The project will bring multiple benefits in improving the water supply of a number of towns, protecting the environment through the prevention of discharge of sewage into the groundwater and providing treated water for irrigation and thus saving fresh water

The reuse of urban wastewater for irrigation is also the subject of a proposed Med-Media project which would bring together ex-perts from France, Jordan and Syria but could have benefits for all Mediterranean countries now facing the need to maximise their water supplies.

The objectives of the project is to investigate the possible reuse of urban wastewater for agricultural production in the Mediterra-

nean region. The urban wastewater of Amman and Damascus will be studied to define its uality and to assess its impact on the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soils, the health risks encountered when using it and its effect on the growth, development and production of ornamental and industrial crops.

A European Investment Bank (EIB) supported project is also getting under-way to rehabilitate the water supply network in Jordan's fourth largest city, Salt. The EIB is providing an ECU 12 million loan to the Water Anthority of Jordan (WAJ) for a project to renovate the town's water for other vital uses. distribution and sewerage networks which date from the 1940s but are now having to serve a rapidly ex-

panding population. A total of ECU 21.3 miltion has now been committed to the water and environment sector in Jordan under the fourth EC-Jordan Financial protocol.

Eye specialists open meeting on latest advances

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - More than 200 eye specialists from Jordan and Arah and foreign nations Tuesday opened a conference at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman to review working papers and discuss matters related to the latest advances in medical eye treatments, according to Bakri Bitar, memher of the Jordanian Ophtbalmological Society (JOS) which organised the

meeting. He told the Jordan Times that the three-day conference will take up the subjects of glaucoma, lense implants, comea surgery, diabetes and changes in the retina among others, and will review a total of 25 working papers.

The conference, the society's third, was opened by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali who deputised for His Majesty King Hussein.

Dr. Fathi Adas, bead of the conference's scientific committee, said the society. spends great efforts to obtain

comeas locally and from ahroad to meet the need of a growing list of patients awaiting cornea transplant

Sinai and southern Egypt and

to organise training courses

tourism sectors in both coun-

tries and discussed regional

According to Dr. Biltaji,

Egypt considers its touristic

plans as complementing

those of Jordan and not com-

peting with them, and there-

expertise in this area.

cooperation.

According to Dr. Bitar, at least 500 comea transplants were so far conducted in Jordan this year at private and public hospitals.

He said such operations are 95 per cent successful and there are now thousands of comea recipients with healthy sight.

Dr. Bitar said that more than 90 per cent of the corneas are donated from citizens in Jordan, and each imported comea costs at least \$600, though some are donated by foreign hospitals.

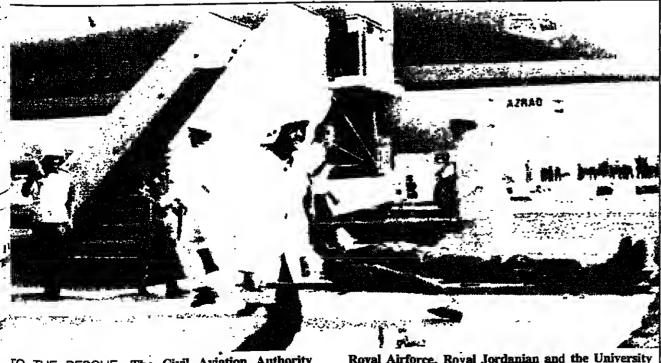
He added that Jordanian hospitals constantly admit patients for eve surgery from Syria, Bahrain and other Gulf states.

The JOS has organised an exhibition of medical equipment on the sidelines of the conference, of which Arab and foreign firms are displaying their products.





Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tues- sein at the Jordan Ophthalmological Sociday deputises for His Majesty King Hus- ety's conference (Petra photo)



TO THE RESCUE. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Tuesday carries out a fire drill and rescue exercise at Queen Alia International Airport. Taking part in the exercise were CAA, Ministry of Health, Royal Medical Services, Security and Protection Unit,

Royal Airforce, Royal Jordanian and the University of Jordan Hospital staff. The exercise aims to assess the efficiency of the various organisations concerned with dealing with emergency situations (Petra photo) PROMOTING ACADEMIC FREE-DOMS: Ali Umleil, secretary general of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) Tuesday opens a two-day symposium on academie freedoms at Arab universities attended by intellec-tuals and scholars from several Arab universities. Dr. Umleii said advocates of academic freedoms were looking for supporting provisions in international charters and covenants on human rights to guarantee the application of such liberties. Director of the United Nations Educational. Scientific and Cultural Orgaisation's (UNESCO) Education Burean for Arab States Abdul Qader Atrash said academic freedoms received special attention from UNESCO since 1966, when an international governmental conference, cal-led for by UNESCO adopted a recommendation on conditions of teachers, drafted by UNESCO in cooperation with the International Labour Organisa-



tion (ILO). The symposium is organised by ATF in cooperation with UNESCO and Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Taking part in the symposium are scholars and intellectuals from Arab nniversities in Jordan.

Syria, Tunisia, Morocco, Yemen, and the Gulf states (Petra photo)

WHAT'S GOING ON

- PLAY Play in Arabic entitled "The Body Test/the Existence" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.
- EXHIBITIONS Exhibition of digital (computer) art by Dr. Shamil Kubba, Omar Shahuan, and Karam Annab at Ain Art Gallery, Wadi Saqra Street (Tel. 644451).
- ☆ Exhibition of paitings by Dia Azzawi at Ab'ad Art Gallery (Tel. 862105).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings entitled "Donation" by Laila Bustami at the Royal Cultural Centre. ★ Exhibition of works by Farouq Zadeh entitled "Faces, Places, and Ideas" at Goethe-Institut (Tel. 641993).
- ☆ Painting exhibition entitled "The Other Sides of Mastery" by Ibrahim Shalabi at the Gallaria Jordan, Mecca
- Street (Tel.816755).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Sahib Ahmad at the Phoenix
- Art Gallery (Tel. 695291). ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Kamal Boullata entitled "Duets, Quartets, and a Triangle" at Darat Al Funuu of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent exhibition of 56 Arah

contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).

- ☆ Exhibition by artist Nadim Muhsin at the French Cultural Centre.
- ☆ Exhibition of stained glass and icons by Olia Bseiso at The Gallery at the Hotel Inter. Continental (8:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m. except on Friday) (Tel. 641361).
- * "The Diness Exhibit" beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.

Plague spreads to New Delhi

SURAT, India (Agencies) — The first cases of pneumonic plague outside this stricken city were confirmed Tuesday, hundreds of miles (kilometres) away in the capital, New Delhi.

Since the plague broke out io Surat a week ago, at least 52 people have died, and the 400,000 residents who fled appear to be spreading it to rural areas of Gojarat state.

Meanwhile, in the neighbouring state of Maharashtra, another form of the illness — hubonic plague — has spread from villages where it broke out last month to Beed, a town about 250 miles (400 kilometres) southeast of Surat. officials said.

No deaths have been reported, hut 90 people with bubonic plague were treated in rural areas, and 31 cases are now in Beed.

The first cases of plague io India in 30 years can be spread by fleas from infected rats or germs from sick peo-

Despite all this, the World Health Organisation says it is too early to say that India will suffer a plague epidemic.

WHO is worried that the plague is spreading to many

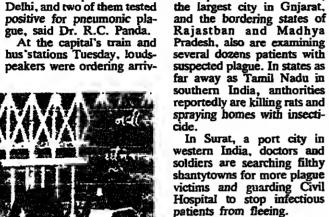
places, but there is no need to panic yet. Antibiotics are available, and the government has intensified the surveillance of the disease," Dr. B.A. Kawengian, a WHO official in New Delhi, said

The pneumonic plague and the bubonic plague — a less deadly form of the disease tbat ravaged 14th-ceotury Europe and Asia as "the black death" - can both be cured with antibiotics.

But the diseases coold strike India's many rural areas, where millions of poor people have no access to edicine or doctors.

Many of the people who fied Surat last week went to 260 kilometres south to Bombay, but the first cases of pneumooic fever outside Surat were reported Tuesday in New Delbi, 1,180 kilometres to the northeast.

Seventeen people, most of them from Surat, have been admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital in New Delhi, and two of them tested



patients from fleeing.
Tension remains high in some areas of the city. Hundreds of private doctors fled Surat, where 2 million people live, when the plague broke out. On Monday, angry people ransacked the clinics of two doctors and burned some of the furniture in the streets, police said. No

cases have been reported yet,

hundreds of people were

asking the doctors questions

about the plague.

In Bombay, 10 suspected pneomonic plague parients were admitted to hospitals

Tuesday, raising the total to

42, said health officials. But

tests baven't found any cases

About 2,500 paramedical

workers are conducting

house-to-house surveys around Bombay — a city of 12.5 million people, more than half of whom in slums —

looking for people with pla-gue symptoms. Health offi-

cials also bave raided phar-macies hoarding or black marketing antibiotics that plague sufferers need, such as

Hospitals in Ahmadabad,

of plague yet

retracycline.

injuries were reported. Seven days after pneumonie plague first struck Surat, the number of people it is killing continues to fall. At Civil Hospital, where most of the city's 400 plague patients are being treated, the first person died there in two days Tnesday:

But nine of the 58 people admitted Monday arrived from villages outside the city, doctors said. And two of the patients who died at the hospital Sunday were from nearby rural areas.

Surat is improving, but the situation appears to be

symptoms to report to doccity, so we are rushing doctors working there aroun the tors and elinics out there," a clock. Nearby police bave been ordered to rush anyone city administrator said on condition of anonymity.

Pakistan said Tuesday it with plague symptoms to the bospital. Although no such

bad suspended airline flights to Bombay and stopped issuing visas to travellers from three western Indian states to prevent the spread of a killer plague.
"We have taken these me-

asures to ensure the epidemic does not spread across the border to Pakistan," a Foreign Ministry official said. Islamabad is considering

wbetber to send special flights to evacuate Pakistani nationals in India after staterun Pakistan International Airlines suspended a twiceweekly service to Bombay, the official said.

There is no bar on foreign airliners coming from Bom-bay "but whoever arrives from there will be subject to detailed medical checks and needed put into quarantine," he said.

The issuing of visas has been suspended for residents of India's Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan states, the official said.

Frankfurt, Germany's largest civilian airport, Tuesday began health checks on travellers from India. German radio said that air-

port authorities had set np quarantine facilities and that 30 doctors were on standby. Medical personnel were checking each flight from India for passengers showing symptoms of the plague.

Deutschlandfunk Radio

quoted one doctor as saying that the quarantine facilities were inadequate because if someone was found to be showing symptoms of the disease, everybody on the flight would have to be kept under observation.

The German Foreign Ministry Monday advised against travel to areas in India infected with pneumonie

Singapore Tuesday advised its citizens to postpone visiting parts of India affected by plague and asked airlines to guard against the entry of plague into the island repub-

A joint statement issued by the Ministries of Health and the Environment said the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore bas asked airlines not to allow any passenger from India with symptoms of plague to board inbound air-



Crowd gathers outside Surat Railway Station as they wait for trains to take them out of the plague-ridden city (AFP photo)

Dispute on coverage holds up jury selection in Simpson

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The judge and a hattery of lawyers began the arduous process of sifting through hundreds of potential jurors to find 12 willing and able to judge the fate of former foot-ball star O.J. Simpson.

Many balked at serving, saying they couldn't afford to be away from their family and jobs for the highly publi-cised murder trial which is expected to last three to six

Simpson, who gained fame as a college and professional football running back, is charged with the slasbing murder of ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and a friend, Ronald Goldman, be bas pleaded innocent. The actual trial follows

months of televised pre-trial bearings where Simpson's bigb-profile legal advisors

have sought to bar evidence from being entered because of alleged messy handling by the police.

So far, judges have re-jected all their motions. Jury selection was to for-mally start later Monday with questioning of individual prospects by Judge Lance

Some 1,000 potential jurors have filled out questionaires on whether the trial would be a bardship. The court looked at a first batch of 219 prospects Monday. If 12 jurors and eight alternates cannot be found in that group, other batches of prospects would be called up for questioning.

In all, 91 people out of the first group of 219 said the trial would be too much of a financial hardship, said Marcia Skolnick, a spokeswoman

for the Superior Court. Sixtythree said they might be able to serve, and the other 65 said they could handle a trial lasting several months, even if sequestered.

Also discussed Monday was a motion filed by the Los Angeles Times to let more reporters in the courtroom dnring jury selection.

The judge bad originally

allowed in only one pool re-porter — Linda Deutsch of the Associated Press - into the courtroom with no audio or video feed to the outside world, even to the press He changed the arrange-

ment Monday to allow three reporters in the courtroom as potential jurors are excused and more seats are available. Judge Ito has banned TV

coverage of the jnry selection



Judge Lance Ito (left) walks down the hall first day of jury selection in the O.J. Simpson during a break in the court proceedings on the double murder trial (AFP photo)

French minister probed in AIDS scandal Congress

PARIS (R) — French judges ordered a former minister to be investigated for alleged poisoning Tnesday in a watershed test of whether the government can be blamed for blood transfusions that gave hundreds of haemophibacs AIDS.

Civil Hospital in Surat (AFP photo)

"They have told me that I have been placed under in-vestigation," former Social - Affairs Minister Georgina Dufoix told reporters after a ·three-bour appearance before a special parliamentary

"I trust in justice," a relaxed Dufoix told reporters before the meeting. She is the first of three former Socialist ministers summoned by the court and expected to face new investigations on crimin-

al charges this week. The new probe would be a turning-point in an emotionally charged scandal over

QUEBEC CITY (R) -

Quebec's separatist party

Monday returned to power

after nine years, promising to

improve the economy before holding a referendum next

year to see if the province will

Jacques Parizeau, the 64-

year-old leader of the separ-

atist Parti Quebecois, called

on his new 19-member

cabinet to revitalise the pro-

vince after he was sworn in as

the oew premier of the

"By choosing a change, (Quebeckers) ordered us to

get Ouebec out of the stupor that bas sapped its eoergy

these last few years," Mr.

Parizeau said as he presented

his cahinet. "Quebec needs

vitamins. It needs to regain

Mr. Parizeau said his gov-

ernment's top priorities will be to get the economy in

shape, to get rid of unneces-

sary red tape, to decentralise

and give more powers to the

"regional delegates" who will

be in charge of increasing the

powers of Quebec's various

Altbough Mr. Parizeau

named economic matters as

top priority, he also spoke of

He named 14 people as

its health."

French-speaking province.

split from Canada.

the contamination with the AIDS virus of half of France's 2,500 haemophiliacs "The real reason (for the in the 1980s.

A man carries the dead body of his four-year old son from the

More than 400 have died. Just two years ago, Ms. Dufoix, former Prime Minister Laurent Fabius and ex-Health Ministry Edmond Herve were simply witnesses in the trial of two lowerranking health officials who were jailed for fraud for distributing AIDS-tainted blood products.

Now the trio faces investigations for an alleged crime which carries a maximum penalty of 30 years in jail. Civil plaintiffs say they must be brought to account because the French state runs blood-transfusion agencies.

"Our association is dying. Every day, the disease hits relatives or a friend. We never give up," said Francis Graeve, 81, president of

the party's ultimate goal — independence for Canada's

"The members of this team

have a common denomina-

tory: They have the feeling of

a country," Mr. Parizeau said. "They know that there

is only one way to be 'masters

of our own house.' They are

sovereigntists. It is an objec-

tive, it's also a way of seeing

Mr. Parizeau spoke of a promised referendum oo in-

dependence, hut he did not

give a firm date of when it would be held, except that it

should be "sometime in

election campaign, polls

showed most Quebec voters

were choosing the Parti

Quebecois not as a ruhber

stamp for separation but be-

cause it was a change from

nine years of Liberal govern-

ment which left high taxes, a

rising hudget deficit and

Quebeckers have consistently

said they would vote "no" in

a referendum on separation.

ised during the campaign to

work immediately toward in-

dependence for Quebec, and

planned to hold a referendum

In fact, a majority of

The Parti Quebecois prom-

double-digit inflation.

During the seven-week

Quebec separatists return to power

largest province.

ex-ministers' guilt) is the French system of transfu-sions, which is a state monopoly," he said. Civil plaintiffs allege the

former ministers chose to use the blood donations they knew should be treated.

They also allege the Paris government delayed bringing in a test until France developed its own version of an existing American model.

Ms. Dufoix, 51, pleads she is innocent and is relieved to have an opportunity to explain ber role between 1983

Meanwhile, French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur was accused of a coverup Tuesday in the case of Indus-try Minister Gerard Lon-

within eight to 10 months after its victory.

and a smaller-than-expected

margin of victory in the elec-

tion earlier this month has

caused the Parti Quebecois to

waver on the promised re-ferendum date — now saying

Although the separatists won 77 of the 125 seats in the

provincial legislature, called the National Assembly, it

only won 44.7 per ceot of the

popular vote, less than one

the Liberals.

rcentage point more than

Political analysts had said

the Parti Quebecois needed

at least 50 per cent of the vote

in the election in order to be

in good position ahead of a

referendum vote that needs a

majority of popular vote to

A similar referendum in 1980 was defeated by a three-to-two margin after a bitter

But Mr. Parizeau spoke as

"We are already a country

if a victory in the referendum

in our heads and in our

hearts, why don't we say it at

a higher level, and proclaim it

to our children and the

and divisive battle.

would be inevitable.

it will be beld in 1995.

However, the opinion polls

shelves Clinton's health care reform

WASHINGTON (AFP) -Congress shelved President Bill Clinton's ambitious plan to guarantee bealth care for all Americans as Senate Democrats failed to balt a Republican filibuster.
"I am very snrry that this

means Congress isn't going to reform bealth care this year. But we are not giving up on our mission to cover every American and to control bealth care costs," the president said in New York.

His bealth care reform, already much modified from its initial version a year ago, ran into strong opposition from the insurance industry, small businesses and other

In Congress, it was declared dead for the current session when Senate majority leader George Mitchell conceded be could not muster the 60 votes needed to stop the Republican move to prevent debate on the bill.

Drawn up by a team headed by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, the reform called for mandatory employer contributions, compulsory health insurance purchasiog alliances for most .Americans and standby price controls on insurance pre-

But Mr. Clinton's promise to provide health insurance for all Americans - currently 39 million lack it - eroded with his need to compromise with powerful lobby groups. By July, he was saying that 95 per cent coverage might be

Although Congress will not take up bealth reform until oext year, lawmakers conceded that the controversial issue would be played out in the uncoming November legislative elections to renew the entire House of Representatives and a third of the Sen-

Ministry.

It said the attorney-general and the government's chief LAGOS (R) — Nigeria's rul-er General Sani Abacba Tuesday appointed an ensecretary, both civilians would attend meetings of the council but not as members. Gen. Abacha, who this

Nigeria names new ruling council

month stifled unrest to replace him with detained presidential claimant Moshood Abiola, has since August signalled a major restructuring of his government.

"The composition is in consonance with the on-going rejuvenation of government machinery as promised by the bead of state," the statement Nigeria's military govern-ment bas arrested three top pro-democracy activists in the capital in its continuing crackdown on voices of dis-

Arrested late Sunday were Sen. B.A. Okoroafor and Bola Omajola, both members of the opposition National Democratic Coalition, and Abdnl Karem Kasumn, a Muslim leader in Nigeria's predominantly Christian southwest.

They are all outspoken critics of Gen. Abacha's military regime, and want to see Mr Abiola named president.

brass from the Defence Genscher steps in to help FDP

BONN (Agencies) — Popular former German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher rushed to the aid of his sinking Free Democrats (FDP) Tuesday with an appeal to voters to back the party if they want him to

larged ruling council com-

posed of military men only as

the highest decision-making

Gen. Abacha would be chair-

man of the 25-member coun-

cil which would be sworn-in

Gen. Ahacba retained

Lieutenant-General Oladipo

Diya as bis number two and

brought into the Provisional

Ruling Council (PRC) field

commanders and many top

An official statement said

body in the country.

Wednesday.

return to parliament.
Mr. Genscher, still Germany's best-liked politician despite his withdrawal to the back benches two years ago, made the call after the liberal FDP Sunday lost its seventh election in a row.

If the FDP fails to return to the Bonn parliament in the Oct. 16 general election it would mean the party could not provide the decisive hlock of deputies Chancellor Helmut Kohl needs to continue his centre-right coalition with the Liberals.

"A vote for the FDP is also a vote for me," Mr. Genscher declared in a ZDF Television interview about the FDP's gloomy prospects for the general election.

"I'm getting fully involved in the campaign, especially in these last three weeks when every day counts."
Mr. Genscher, 67, denied

he planned to return as head of the small liberal party, which has lost all its seats in the six state polls and a European Parliament vote since Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel took over as FDP chair-

"I do not want any new or old offices," be said, making clear his loyalty to Mr. Kinkel as party leader.

In a campaign where personalities have played a stronger role than policies, the FDP appeared to play its final trump card by getting Mr. Genscher to return to the fray. He gave health reasons for suddenly stepping down from power in 1992.

The party won an impressive 11 per cent in the 1990 general election with a "Genscher bonus", thanks to his work negotiating German unification with the World War II victors — the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and France. But its failure to clear the

five per cent minimum in the last seven elections it bas contested has raised doubts whether the FDP can make it back into the Bonn parlia-Mr. Genscher's return to

the front lines also increased pressure on Mr. Kinkel, who FDP critics say has been clearly overworked in the dual role of foreign minister and party chairman that his popular predecessor played so well.

Juergen Moellemann, Mr. Kinkel's main rival and a Genscher protege, suggested Monday the party should consider a change in leadership after the general elec-

"If you suffer such a series of blows, you have to talk about what mistakes belped to cause them," said Mr. Moellemann, leader of the party's largest regional grouping in North Rhine-

Westphalia state.

"If you have an election result like that several times, then one has to say that there are obviously weaknesses, such as in the personnel, which will have to be cleared

Mr. Moellemann bas already put up eye-catching campaign posters in his state showing Mr. Genscher, for-mer FDP Chairman Otto Lambsdorff and himself. Mr. Kinkel is neither shown nor

In an interview Tuesday, Mr. Moellemann also indirectly criticised Mr. Kinkel by saying Mr. Genscher had not expected his withdrawal from the front line of German politics to cause the party so much trouble.

"Geoscher thooght the transition would go smoothly," Mr. Moellemann, who failed to win the party chair-" Mr. Moeliemann, who manship, told the Bild newspaper in an interview distributed before publication Wednesday, "Now be has decided to devote all his energy to ensuring that his life's work is not put in danger."

14-year-old baby sitter left with 4 children for 2 weeks

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A

couple who left four children with a teenage baby sitter for a three-day trip that stretched

to two weeks turned up and were charged with child en-dangerment. Bonnie Railing and James Fignar offered no public explanation for their 16-day absence, but Fignar's employer said he was working in New York until Saturday installing floor coverings. The couple were arrested when they appeared at a custody hearing for the children, who ranged in age from 2 to 10. The sitter, 14-year-old Angela Morris, tried to maintain the household, enlisting the help of friends, skipping school and keeping the secret from anthorities, hoping to keep the children out of foster bomes. "In the end, that's what happened anyway," she said. The gas had been shut off at the house, so the teen improvised to feed and bathe the youngsters, at one point heating hath water in an electric coffee maker. Police acting on an anonymous tip came to the house Friday and removed the children. Railing and Fignar were to be arraigned on four counts each 🀔 of endangering the welfare of a child. Each count carries five years in jail. Family Court Judge Joseph Jaffe ruled the children must remain in foster care at least until another bearing on Oct. 5, said Mark Cancilla, a lawyer representing the children. The couple learned about the hearing from the chil-dren's grandmother, wbo said she tried to bave the children turned over to her last week. The couple had no comment as they left the custody bearing. The children attended, and the oldest was crying, said their grand-mother, Dorothy Brooks. The baby sitter said the couple left their two children. ages 2 and 3, and Railing's two older children, aged 9 and 10, in her care on Sept. 7, with the promise they'd return in three days. Her payment was to be \$75. "But it ended up being extended every other day until it ended up being 16 days," Angela said. The teen said she'd seen the movie Home Alone, about a child accidentally left behind when his parents went on vacation. "I thought it was funny," sbe said. "But I didn't have time to think about that. I was too busy thinking about what I needed to do for the kids."

Happy wanderer James, 10, heads home

LONDON (R) - A 10-yearold boy struck by wanderlust was heading back home to Britain Tuesday after his latest adventure took him to Spain on a car ferry. Earlier this year James Webb was caught sneaking onto a ferry bound for France and almost managed to board a Jumbo Jet at London's Heathrow Airport for Rio De Janeiro. On his latest escapade, James stowed away on a ferry before it left Portsmontb, southern England, for Bilbao in northern Spain. Crewmen discovered bim Saturday wandering alone around the ship as its crossed the bay of biscay. James's mother, Phyllis, told the Daily Mail newspaper: "It all started when he was five and we lived opposite a railway station. He was fascinated by trains, and when we moved to portsmouth it was ferries and trains as well.'

Relic from Red Baron's plane up for auction

LONDON (R) — A relic from the plane flown by World War I German flying ace Baron Manfred Von Richthofen is expected to fetch up to £100,000 (\$157,000) when it goes on sale in November, the anctioneers Phillips said. An Australian infantryman cut away the distinctive German military cross painted on the side of Von Richthofen's Red Fokker triplane after the pilot, known as the "Red Baron", was shot down over France on April 21, 1918. The Australian, Albert Putman, later gave the black cross measuring 22 inches (56-cm) across to an American doctor who was caring for him in a bospital in France. The doctor's son is now selling the souvenir at a London auction on Nov. 16. Phillips said the cross one of many souvenirs removed from the plane - many of which are now in museums around the world - but if was the first to be auctioned.

Rwal strea Zaire, i.ez., venge killing government fugee official in Genera spokesman Secretary Ge Ghali said he full enguir Dr. Gha.:

U.N. official on the subdall Sachs for the stone (LNHCR 25 552.71 back into Tables are remaining To: CAHCK AND pe agents V ing a marine of Tarsiles --order : MEETS STO . NOW. are harries : OLDED: ST. where the time ment's forces SEPTEMBER ATT 7.35 1: X.53 - -

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Rwandan Hutu refugees stream back into Zaire

GOMA, Zaire (AFP) -Hntu refugees are streaming back from Rwanda into Zaire, fleeing reported revenge killings by Tutsi-led government forces, U.N. re-

government forces, U.N. re-fugee officials said Tuesday. In Geneva Tuesday, a spokesman for the U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said he had ordered a full enquiry into the UNHCR

Dr. Ghali had ordered U.N. nfficials to say no more on the auhject until the inquiry had been carried nut. the spokesman said. However, in Zaire, Lyn-

dall Sachs, a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commis-sioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said almost twice as many people are crossing back into Zaire each day as are returning to their former homes in Rwanda.

The claims are bound to revive the row between the UNHCR and the Rwandan government which accused the agency Monday of leading a "campaign" against the Tutsi-led administration in order to preserve its own

The government says attacks are occurring but they. are happening mostly in the southwest sector of Rwanda where the furmer government's forces and Hutusupremacists are still attacking Tutsi forces.

In Kigali, a U.N. spokesman seemed to back up this version of events, saying that the Rwandan gnvernment forces had themselves come under attack in the southeast area Sunday.

Three soldiers were ininred in the attack on a car they were travelling in, Major Jean-Guy Plante said.

Ms. Sachs said the latest figures from seven monitoring points along the horder near Goma in eastern Zaire, show that around 300 refugees a day are returning to

The UNHCR nfficial said "jungle justice" was being meted nut by the victorious Hutus in revenge for massacres during the civil war

earlier this year. The UNHCR said last week that returnees - mainly Hutus -- were being murdered nn a large scale.

Rwanda President Pasteur Bizimungu, a moderate Hutu and member of the mainly-Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), said Monday the government "categorical-ly" denied the UNHCR re-

ports. The government bad counted under 100 isolated incidents of reprisals in Rwanda by its forces which were all "regrettable" but now "under control." Some 60 to 70 people bad been

arrested, be said. Hc said the UNHCR was taking a "negative role" and acting as if it wants to "jus-

tify" an offensive which he expects the Hutu militia, the Interahamwe, and former government soldiera to

launch shortly. He also accused the U.N. body of cooperating with the "criminals" who had led the massacres in Rwanda from April to July by feeding them in the refugee camps in Zaire and of seeking to preserve its own role by dissuading Rwandan refugees from returning to Rwandan from the surrounding countries.

Ma. Sacbs deuied the charge Tuesday. "We're believers in the

whole concept of freedom of movement," she said. "We cannot stop people going back - we're not pris-

ou guards.
"What we can do is give them the best information available on conditions where they are going to and leave it up in them to take the decision on whether or not they

still wish to return."
Some 800,000 Rwandans are in huge camps around this Zairean border town, np to 30,000 of them former soldiers and militiamen nf the defeated Rwandan army.

The Kigali government bas promised safe return for the vast majnrity of refugees, saying it wants to bring to justice unly the leaders of the genocide against the Tutsi

But the soldiers are reported to be intimidating civilians into refusing to return, and to be plotting a new offensive in early October to retake Rwanda.

RPF information officer Major Wilson Rutayisire said Friday the government was going to launch a "farge offensive" against the Hntu militia which was still committing atrocities in the south-east sector.

Maj. Plante said he had no comment un the UNHCR allegations of atrocities committed by the RPF and said the U.N. missinn in Rwanda was awaiting the result of a

experts. The U.N. meanwhile bean as scheduled its Operation Homeward to bring Hutu refugees in south-east Rwandak back to their homes else-

where in Rwanda. Hundreds of U.N. trucks will take an estimated 4,000 people daily from the south-

west, U.N. Assistance Mission In Rwanda (UNAMIR) spokesman Pierre Mehu said. It was not clear if they would return to their homes or to new camps set up to

case overcrowding.
"We press nn with plans," said U.N. military spokes-man Maj. Plante, adding it was the biggest operation to transfer displaced withiu Rwanda since millions of people were uprooted by three months of civil war and

IFP sues ANC, Mandela over March killings

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - The Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) Tuesday sued South African President Nelson Mandela over the shooting dead outside ANC headquarters in March of eight Inkatha mem-

Themba Khoza, political director and Transvaal chief told a press conference that the summons served against Mr. Mandela said the ANC leader bad interfered with the police investigation by preventing a search of the ANC Headquarters immediately after the killings.

Writs had also gone out against Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi. ANC General Secretary Cyril Ramaphosa and Johannesburg area police Commis-sioner Koos Calitz, the offi-

cial said. An IFP press statement said Mr. Mufamadi, although not in office ar the time, was cited because, "as a senior member of the ANC, (he) admitted in public some weeks ago that the ANC fired the first shots and (he) did not even attempt to suggest that there was any reason to

Mr. Khoza said the IFP, which is led by Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, would seek eight million rand (\$2.3 million) in damages from the ANC officials, the ANC as an organisation and the South African Police Force.

Eight IFP members were shot dead outside the ANC's headquarters on March 28

massacres from April to July.

demoustration in ceutral Johanneshurg.
The Johannesburg demonstration turned into a bloodbath in which 53 people were killed and 300 injured in one of the worst days of pre-

election violence here. The killings belped prompt the proclamation of emergency rule three days later in Kwazulu-Natal province, the IFP stronghold.

An IFP lawyer, at Van Wyk, said the legal action came within six-month statute of limitations for actions suing police officials, includ-ing Mr. Mufamadi and Mr. Calitz.

He said Mr. Mandela and the other defendants have 20 days to officially state whether they will defend their actions.
Two sets of summonses

were served on the defen-

The first cites as plaintiff Silwayiphi Alfred Mapanga, an IFP member in his twenties whose wounds from the shootout left him a paraple-

The second cites Puthile Zombi Dlamini, the widow of one of the victims, once in her personal capacity and once as mother and legal guardian of six children aged between six and 16.

The rift between Inkatha and the ANC eaused thousands of deaths in the run up tn South Africa's April elections.

Polifical violence in the country has fallen sharply since the election though tension iu Kwazulu-Natai has



Gerry Adams (left), leader of the Sinn Fein, the legal, political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), presents civil rights leader Rosa Parks with a Waterford crystal bowl in recognition for the inspiration to him and to the civil rights movement in Northern Ireland, at Detroits' City County Building (AFP

Adams downplays remarks on future IRA leadership

LONDON (AFP) — Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, in an interview broadcast bere Tuesday, downplayed a com-ment be made to a U.S. newspaper suggesting a fu-ture IRA leadership might revert to vinlence in the absence of progress towards

The leader of the Irish Repuhican Army's (IRA) political branch, nn a nine-city U.S. tour, was quoted hy the Boston Glube as saying a prolouged stagnatinn in the peace process could reactivate Ireland's cyclical progressinn of paramilitary

"Nune of us can say two or three years up the road that if the causes of conflict aren't resolved, that another IRA leadership wnu't come along, because this has always happened," Mr. Adams told the

A leading Protestant unionist politician jumped on the comment as proof that the IRA ceasefire, in effect since Sept. 1, could not be

counted on as permanent. 'Mr. Adams' candour bas not told us anything we didn't know already," said Ulster Unionist MP David Trimble.

"The government was wise. to move forward cautiously, and should insist that the IRA's military machine was dismantled and its weapons surrendered before Sinn Fein could move into the political process," Mr. Trimble told

The Sinn Fein leader told the BBC his remarks to the Boston Globe had been made in hypothetical terms and that he did not believe the

peace process would fail. "I refuse to get into the whole bypothetical situation and what may happen in the worst case scenario," he said.

"The best case sceuario is we now bave a unique opportunity for peace which (British Prime Minister Johu) Major should seize and move the situation forward.

"The peace process is going to work," said Mr. Adams. "The peace process is under no threat from any element in the hroad Republican family — uo threat, uo

Mr. Majnr, unlike his Irisb cnunterpart Albert Reynolds, bas nnt yet recognised the IRA ceasefire as permanent, a watershed that would start the clock on a three-month waiting period to hring Sinn Fein into peace

"Nothing has really changed until there is a renunciatinn of violence and a commitment to exclusively peaceful methods," said Mr. Trimble.

"The real danger is nut a new leadership coming along in a couple of years' time, the real danger is the present leadership might decide that ing, discard Mr. Adams and proceed," he said.

Mr. Adams met bere Monday with Rosa Parks, the hlack civil rights pinneer, and thanked her fur inspiring the desire for civil rights in his homeland.

"As a teenager in Belfast, we took succor from the people in this country who struggled for civil rights," be said in Detroit, his second stop on a nine-city U.S. tour seeking support for the peace process

in Northern Ireland. Mr. Adams recalled the black U.S. civil rights battles in the 1960s and the voice of the Revend Martin Luther Kiug, "brought iuto onr homes through the medium of television.

He said Ms. Parks' refusal to give up a bus seat to a white man in 1955 "sent a message of how one person's action can start a whole mass

movement. Mr. Adams gave 81-year-old Ms. Parks, who was attacked in her home four weeks ago, a Waterford crys-

tal bowl. During a visit to Boston earlier Monday, Mr. Adams told the Bostou Herald newspaper: "I want to see the gun taken permanently out of Ir-

"Who's interested in temporary? We live there" added the Sinn Fein leader, who arrived in Boston Saturday on the first leg of a two-week visit to the United States.

Chechen government, rebels clash in heavy fighting

GROZNY, Russia (AFP) — Heavy fighting hroke out Tuesday between forces of Chechenya's Muslim secessionist government and rebels loyal to Moscow near the opposition headquarters of Znamenskoe, a rebel spokesman said.

The fighting was near the village of Kirovo, 20 kilom ctres from Znamenskoe, the opposition spokesman, Ruslan Martagov, rold AFP.

Ten days ago the rebels, who admit to receiving funding from Moscow, lost one of the heaviest battles in six manths of intermittent fighting iu Chechnya.

The republic is the only one of Russia's 89 so-called "subjects" to secede from the Russian Federation and Muscow sees the attempt as setting a dangerous example in the turbulent Caucasus region.

Mr. Martagov said Tues-

armoured vehicles and artillery. He said the fighting had been heavy and that four rehel soldiers were wounded, but gave no further details.

The Chechen deputy security minister, Mud Ali Tahhylev, would only confirm that government forces had launched a military operation against the opposi-

Interfax reported that 500 Chechen government soldiers backed hy 10 tanks moved in two columns against the rebel headquarters.

Mr. Martagov was quoted as saying that one column of government troops had been stopped by rebel soldiers ar the village of Kalaus.

Skirmishes between the opposition, headquarters 60 kilometres northwest of the capital Grozny in Znamenskue, and forces loyal to President Dzhokhar

Bosnia to ask for delay in lifting U.N. arms embargo

Bosnian government, scaling back earlier demands, was ready Tuesday to support a delay in lifting the arms embargo as their Bosnian Serb foes kept up pressure ou U.N. peacekeeping opera-

Bosnia's U.N. ambassador, Muhammad Sacirbey, said his Muslim-led governmeut would ask the U.N. Security Council to support the lifting of the arms ban at a future date instead of taking immediate action.

"We are asking for lifting of the arms embargo to go ahead as planned but the practical application of that to be deferred to four to six months," Mr. Sacirbey told

reporters late Mouday. The proposal was aimed at patching up differences over the issue between Washington and its European allies. which bave threatened to withdraw their peacekeeping troops from former Yugoslavia if arms were allowed to flow freely to the Maslims.

In Sarajevo, meanwhile, U.N. spokesmen reported that Bosnian Serb forces continued to block U.N. aid convoys and peacekeeping op-erations in retaliation for a NATO air raid last week and tougher sanctions imposed by the United Nations. Busnian President Alija

Izetbegnvic was expected to explain why his government wanted a six-mouth delay in removing the arms emhargo in an address Tuesday to the U.N. General Assembly. The U.S. Congress had instructed President Bill Clin-

tnn to push the Security

Council to lift the embargn if the Bosnian Serbs fail to accept an international peace plan hy Oct. 15. "We require that nations commit themselves for the future in the event that Bosnian Serbs have not accepted

the peace agreement," Mr. Sacirbey said. "It would be a

legal lifting hut a practical



listens to U.S. President Bill Clinton deliver his speech to the 49th annual meeting of the ambassador to the U.N. (AFP photo)

United Nations General Assembly in New important to Washington as Serb attacks on peacekeepthe Muslims, fearing a U.N. pullout would result in

enclaves and collapse of aid efforts as the winter set in. Washington, iucreasingly concerned about the risks of lifting the embargo and the frayed ties the issue has created with Britain, France and Russia, said it was discussing a compromise that would

the probable loss of eastern

postpone lifting the emhargo. But the United States wanted the United Nations to take a tougher stance in enforcing U.N. heavy weapons exclusion zones around Sarajevn and nther Muslim

enciaves. In a speech tn the U.N. General Assembly Munday, Mr. Clinton said the Bosnian capital Sarajevn "nnce again faces the prospect of stran-gulation" by besieging Bosnian Serh forces and urged the United Nations to show a

new resolve to save it. He said "NATO stands ready to act" as it did last Thursday when NATO jets destroyed a Bosnian Serb

U.N. officials suspended relief convoys in Serb-held parts of Bosnia after Serbs warned their safety could not be guaranteed, Pcter Kessler of the U.N. High Commis-sioner for Refugees said Monday.

Serb forces have hrought U.N. operations to a standstill following the air raid and one U.N. source described relations between Serbs and the United Nations as being

"at their worst". The Serbs hlncked nverland supply routes to the city and forced the United Nations to suspend its airlift tn Sarajevn after a Bosnian Serb nfficer warned that his men would fire on any aircraft using the city's main aid gate-

The NATO bomhing infuriated the Bosnian Serbs and their leader Radovan Karadzic tuld Renters Munday: "If there are gning to be mnrc air strikes, then there is going to be war between us and the international com-We are cornere we will fight as we fought the Busnian Serbs.

Austro-Hungarian empire

and Hitler. "We will fight the United Nations if it turns against us. If NATO comes here we will fight NATO," be said.

But Mr. Karadzic has agreed to ease a 12-day utility blockade of Sarajevo, allow-

ing gas supplies to return falteringly to parts of the city. A U.N.-brokered agree-ment called for repair teams to be allowed access to damaged electricity pylons around the city, while power would be restored to Serb-

held areas in Bosnia. In Belgrade, international mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stultenherg held talks Tuesday with the head of an international mission sent to check the efficacy nf Belgrade's military hlockade against the Bosnian Serbs. They also planned to meet Serbia's President Sluhodan

Milosevic. The Security Council has vnted to relax U.N. sanctions nu rump Yugoslavia nnce the monitoring mission delivers a repart verifying that Bel-grade has cut military aid to

A deal would be just as punitive raid that followed J.S.: 'No progress' in N . Korea nuclear talks

GENEVA (R) - The United States said there had been "no progress" in a further bid Tuesday to reach accord with North Korea nn reshaping Pyongyang's nuc-

lear programme to ensure it cannot produce weaponry. The statement was issued after a four-and-a-half hour meeting hetween U.S. Ambassador-at-large Robert Gallucci and North Korea's First Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok-Ju aimed at trying to overcome major dif-

ferences on the issue. "We can report no progress," the statement declared, hut it said there would be another Gallucci-Kang meeting Wednesday. A North Korean official said hc had no immediate comment.

The twn men had also met for six hours and a working lunch Monday trying to bammer nut a jnint accord formalising earlier outline agreement on replacing North Korea's graphite reactors with a light-water version which would produce much

less of the plutonium needed to make nuclear arms. U.S. and South Korean intelligence officials say they suspect the North may have a weapons programme. Pyongyang has fed these fears by refusing to open two suspect sites to international inspec-

The current round of talks began last Friday, and U.S. officials had indicated they hoped it would be completed

by Wednesday at the latest.

Pyongyang has said it might pull out if U.S. naval excrcises off its coast are not

Meanwhile a defector said Tuesday North Korea successfully tested three nuclear bombs in Russia and the Ukraine in 1992.

The defector, identified as 23-year-old Lee Chung-Kuk, also said he personally witnessed the North Korean military testing detonators for the bombs in October of 1993 near the Stalinist state's

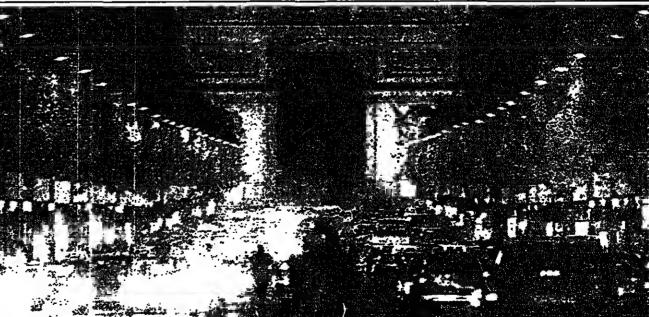
Yonghyong nuclear complex. There was no independent confirmation of the claims. The United States helieves North Korea may bave manufactured one or two bombs, but late North Ko-

rean President Kim II-Sung

said before his death on July 8 that the North had no bombs and added it had no place to test them.

Mr. Lee told the South Korean MBC Television that he had worked as a staff sergeant at a núclear warfare unit under the direct control of the North Korean Defence Ministry, and that he had defected to the South in March of this year.

He said he had participated in tests in which his unit assisted scientists and had access to classified information, and that he planned to publish a book in Japan entitleo "Kim Jong-Il's nuclear bombs and military." Kim Jong-II, 52, is Kim Il-Sung's son and designated successor.



Parisians crowd the Champs Elysees avenue. The famous French avenue returned to its former glory after a two-year 240 million francs (\$44 million) face-lift (AFP photo)

Paris restores the chic of Champs-Elysees

PARIS (R) — Paris's bestknown avenue, the Champs-Elysees, showed off a smart new look Monday in a costly attempt to restore its image as the most glamorous walkway in the capital of chic. Until several decades ago,

the artery burn in 1670 was a promeuade for the cream of Paris society, the preserve of fashion houses, jewellers and expensive restaurants. boasts 227 more plane trees, Over recent years it had become an anonymous mass 51 benches in tropical wood of cinema, car show-rooms

and fast-food outlets, plagued by muggers. The three-year, 240-million franc (\$45 million)

Narrow alleys on either side of the avenue which provided parking space have been sacrificed for wider pavements which now make up a wide promenade more than a kilometre long.

tastefully graduated in shades of granite ranging from the grey of central France to the blue of Brittany. The new Champs-Elysees

and artfully designed hus had in the sub-conscious of shelters. Newspaper kiosks the French and of foreigners," Mr. Chirac told a and street lamps in the style of the turn of the century news conference hefore hark back to the avenue's

sprung up. They are not ex-pected to speed up traffie on the ever-clogged avenue.

The revamp of the street which likes to call itself "the

stainless steel, have also

world's most beautiful avenue" has restored the Champs-Elysees to its former glory, according to conservative Paris Mayor Jacques

Chirac.
"This avenue has recovered all its prestige, the magical character which it

chains and growing insecurity. We wanted to give the Champs Elysees the luster of

The original plan for Monday's inauguration had been for Mr. Chirac to cut a gigan-tic red ribbon in a ceremony complete with stirring music from a band.

But his aides dropped the idea, fearing it might seem too much like pre-campaign electioneering by the Gaullist leader widely seen as a prob-

presidential elections. Instead, he threw a switch for 1,000 emerald green floodlights whose intensity

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By Dr. James Zogby

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Another hurdle on way

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's surprise decision to construct yet another Jewish settlement in the West Bank is the worst message that he could send to the Arab side. The PLO leadership has been hard pressed by the Palestinian constituency to explain and justify its agreement with Israel last year since it seemed to offer them only a truncated territory with truncated authority and jurisdiction that made the whole deal somewhat laughable. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has often dismissed this negative interpretation although he admitted that he was forced into making a bad deal with Israel.

Announcing now that Alfei Menashe settlement would soon take root three kilometres within the West Bank is not exactly the kind of assurance that the Palestinian people were hoping for against the backdrop of persistent suspicion about the real Israeli intentions. Even the Israeli explanation that the new settlement would be nothing more than a "seam" housing plan cannot be expected to allay the fears and anxieties of the Palestinians. Clearly what Israel seeks to do now is to beef up its Jewish presence all along the West Bank facing densely populated areas in central Israel. Perhaps Rabin seeks this kind of road to allay the concerns of his military about the "indefensibility" of Israel's narrow coastal strip.

But Rahin cannot sue for peace with his neighbours and at the same time make military postulations that war is just around the corner. Besides, whatever security arrangements that Israel may need it should not be at the cost of the Arab parties. Is Rabin reversing an earlier decision to freeze the construction of about 10,000 housing units as a condition for securing U.S. loan guarantees totaling \$10 billion by going ahead with his latest plan to build the new colony? This is where Washington has to step in since it was the party that succeeded in convincing the Israeli government in the first place on its previous commitment to proceed with its plan for the construction of more and more housing units on Arab lands. It is not too late for the Israeli government to reverse itself on an explosive issue like this.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'l Tuesday described as political bankruptsy a call by a Cairo daily for an invasion of Sudan in a bid to topple the Khartoum regime. Tareq Masarweh said that Akhbar Al Youm, which is the organ of the government appointed Shura Council, should realise that Sudan is a sovereign state and only its own people have the right to change the nature of the government ruling the country. Referring to Western accusations that Sudan has been encouraging terrorism, the writer said not a single penny found in Egypt was proved to have come from Khartoum and not a single piece of weaponary has originated in Sudan or even Iran, which is also accused by the West of barbouring terrorists and operating terror acts in other countries. Coming from a government-controlled newspaper, the call on Cairo to invade Sudan is quite dangerous as it threatens the stability in the North African region, said the writer. He said that what has been going on in Egypt was not imported from Sudan or Iran. The unrest there reflects the internal situation in Egypt which is a result of the country's economic and other policies. Directing public attention towards a common enemy abroad is a tactic which said the writer does not always serve its purpose and divert attention from the real ills facing the nation.

SAWT AL Shanb daily said that the dispute over the Gulf islands that have been occupied by Iran in the Arabian Gulf should be referred to the international Court of Justice in The Hague. Criticising Iran for threatening to resort to the use of force to keep the islands under its own control, the paper said this is totally unacceptable, especially as Iran had occupied the three islands by force and continues to refuse any dialogue with the United Arah Emirates (UAE) over their future. The UAE's right to the islands is crystal clear as provided for in the international agreements and it is regrettable that Tehran is refusing to discuss the matter with its neighbour, added the daily. Occupying part of other country's territory is an act of war, which Iran could not have resorted to had the Arab World been more

Washington Watch

Arab Americans: responding to the challenges of the '94 elections

SEPTEMBER'S PRIMARY elections launched two more Arab-Americans into national political prominence.

In the state of Arizona, Eddie Basha, a populist Arab-American Democrat, scored a major upset victory in becoming his party's nominee in the race for that state's Governor. Mr. Basha is the owner of a chain of 67 supermarkets, which have made bis name a popular one statewide. He campaigned hard as a moderate business-oriented Democrat and is well-positioned to win the final election in November. An Arizona poll conducted last week shows Basha with a 6 per cent lead over his Republican opponent, incumbent Governor Fife Syming-

Mr. Basha is proud of his Arab ancestry. He both actively sought and received the support of Arab-Americans across the U.S. In his campaign literature, Mr. Basha describes the core values he learned from his beritage and bow they bave been applied in his business and professional life.

"My father tanght me that the community is not something a business only takes from, but rather a partner... The community gives us livelihood. And, for its part, the business gives back to the community in service, in caring and in commitment to community growth and

Mr. Basha is being heralded by the National Democratic Party as one of its most promising candidates. In an election year where the Democrats are concerned about their overall standing in the country, Mr. Basha stands out that much more. He will be hosted by President Bill Clinton at the White House next month.

Across the continent in Connecticut, 34-year-old Joseph Ganim won the right to be on the November ballot in that state as the Democratic nominee for Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Ganim, twice elected as Mayor of Bridgeport (the largest city in Connecticut), is one of the rising stars in the Democratic Party. He won his last election with 80 per cent of the vote, baving established his reputation by bringing

credit standing it enjoys today.

Mr. Gamm and his family bave long been involved in Arab-American community activities,

back the city from the brink of bankruptcy to the solid

With the primary election season now complete, Arab-Americans add Mr. Basba and Mr. Ganim to the slate of other Arab-Americans running in the finals in November. These include Representative Nick Joe Rahall II (West Virginia Democrat), and Representative Pat Danner (Missouri Democrat) who are incumbents running for reelection to the U.S. Congress, And new candidates E. Spencer Abraham, the Republican nominee for State in Michigan, and Ray LaHood of Illinois and Ernie Farhat of California, both Republicans running for the U.S. Congress.

In addition, there are over 40 Arab-Americans running for other state and local office elections in 17 states. Looking at this impressive state of candidates and the

recent record of Arab-American political activities brings the real progression of the Arab-American agenda into

While some lament the fate of the Arabs and Arab-Americans in the "new world order," the Arab-American mainstream is hard at work staking its claim to power by participating in the political process. In just a two-week period, for example, Arab-Americans in Washington have placed the community's name on the U.S. political map in a series of major political events.

The first of these was the Builders for Peace press conference with Vice President Al Gore. Seven leading Arab-American businessmen were introduced by the vicepresident and commended for their early investment in projects in the West Bank and Gaza. Many of these investors are combining their significant personal invest-ments with support from U.S. government agencies to bring new economic opportunity to Palestine. The sum total of all the projects announced by the vice-president will bring \$268 million in U.S., investment and create over 5,000 new Palestinian jobs.

The thrust of the vice-president's remarks was to praise these Arab-Americans for taking risk and putting their economic power to work to support peace.

On the political side, Arab-Americans sponsored a number of significant political forums in September.

On the domestic front, the Arab-American Institute (AAI) featured a major debate in Virginia featuring all the Senate candidates and the congressional candidates in this November's elections. Participants included Senator Charles Robb, and his opponents Oliver North and Marshall Coleman. Members of Congress Jim Moran and Leslie Byrne and their challengers also participated. In addition to debating issue, all of the candidates made strong appeals for Arab-American votes in November. Since this event occurred the day after U.S. forces

landed in Haiti, that issue as well as the candidate's positions on the status of Jerusalem were hotly dehated. Because the timing was so good and the participation of the candidates was so impressive, the event-received major national news coverage.

American events this past week. Two major forums were bosted; one featuring Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa, and the other featuring Information Minister Jawad Anani

Both events marked a turning point in Arab-American politics in Washington. Amr Musa's appearance, for example, marked the first time that an Arab foreign minister songht ont Arab-American sponsorship for a major policy address. In his remarks, Mr. Musa pointedly addressed Arab-American community on the key role it could play in shaping U.S. policy and serving as a bridge between the U.S. and the Arab World. The only major U.S. event marking the first aumiversary of the Sept. 13 signing of the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles was co-sponsored by Arab-Americans and a major American Jewish group. The AAI and Peace Now event featured Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin and Palestinian negotiator Nabil Sha'th.

If this were not enough, Arab-Americans also sponsored fundraising events for political candidates during the period. Among them were fundraising events for Spencer Abraham and Ray Lahood (a Basha event is being planned for early next month). The most significant of these fundraisers was co-bosted by administration cabinet member, Secretary Donna Shalala and Najeeb Halaby, for Virginia's incumbent Democratic Senator, Charles Robb.

It is important to note that these events are only those held in Washington this month. Similar political events were taking place during this same time in Ohio, Michigan, California, Illinois and New Jersey — states with strong Arab-American populations.

The community has turned a corner. It is now empowered and fully engaged in the political process. To some extent, the work of the community has become routine. Just five years ago, the mere presence of a major U.S. pobtical leader at an Arab-American event would send shockwaves through the media. In 1990, then-chair of the Democratic National Committee (now Secretary of Commerce) Ron Brown's appearance at an AAI event was the subject of national television and print news stories. Such meetings are now so commonplace that they are no longer, in themselves, newsworthy.

Political exclusion and discrimination in the political process are rapidly becoming an item of our past. Arab-Americans now receive the recognition they deserve. Just this week, for example, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton presided at an awards ceremony sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at which Arab-American Oud player Simone Shaheen was given the NEA National Heritage award for Excellence. He was the first Arab-American to receive that distinction. In her remarks, the first lady spoke of the contribution that Mr. shaheen and other ethnic musicians bave made in bringing out the rich and diverse culture shared by all Americans.

Arab-Americans now have more opportunities in the U.S. than ever before. The challenge the community faces now is to recognise the new possibilities that an open political process holds for them — and to take advantage of

Without forgetting their principled commitments to justice and even-handedness. Arab-Americans can now fully engage the system and shape the political debate over U.S. Middle East policy. They can respond to the challenge posed by Egyptian Foreign Minister Musa: To be full partners in U.S. society, and full partners in the quest for a comprehensive Middle East peace.

Theory meets reality in Clinton's Caribbean

By Ed Valliamy

AMERICA HAS been treated to the remarkable spectacle of the mighty kissing the hands of the meek in exile and of the downright squalid in power in a bid to keep a failing foreign policy doctrine alive.

Following Jimmy Car-ter's humble entreaties to Haiti's tin-pot bully Raoul Cédras last weekend, the U.S. military establishment lined up to give a 21-gun salute in honour of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the firebrand priest and president-in-exile whom Mr. Cédras deposed. To sighs of relief throughout Washington, Mr. Aristide duly thanked the United States for mounting its quiet invasion.

The unconvincing commitment to Mr. Aristide and the administration's wider Haitian project has a deeper rationale, apart from meeting domestic political pressures and heading off mass landings by Haitian boat people. Strange though it may seem, there has actually been an attempted coher-ence behind Mr. Clinton's foreign policy, into which Haiti fits. It even has a

name. "Soft Power." Soft Power is, above all, the creature of Vice President Al Gore, backed by a handful of State Department intellectuals and some of the Ivy League White House aides. After the fall of Communism, it is an attempt to redraw the man of power, to break away from imperial, crusading rhetoric, and to redefine the role of a superpower when there is no equally

matched enemy.

The doctrine aims to change the language of global policy. Rather than defining problems (and solutions) in terms of military conflict, the emphasis shifts to the environment, the population explanation, the fight against AIDS, the management of food production - what Mr. Gore calls a "Global Marshall Plan" in which America and its technological leadership can help forge a com-mon parpese across the

These notions are the international version of what was, at home, labelled the 'politics of virtue," a Bunyanesque journey which was to have been led by Hillary Clinton towards an America that combined enterprise captalism with the values of decency between fellow men.

The politics of virtue



edition of sixties idealism, forged into a political agenda that stressed cures for the ills in American society, rather than the nation's role as the world's policeman. Soft Power is virtue's global wing. It sounds good, and - above all - could be an acceptable mask behind which the newly insular America could hide while going about its own busi-

Mr. Clinton's presidendal style helped to douse the fire old interventionism and brash decision-making. He packs his meetings with experts and advisers, endlessly seeking more in-formation before making his decision, which is some how always influenced by the last person be at ke to. If not quite presidency by committee, this enabled the president's entourage to enjoy power without prece-dent. The intellectual process was stimulating; the experience of reality was rather different.

For the way the world was changing was not quite as Al Gore and his friends had hoped. As a result, Soft Power ran aground on the rocks of the new world disorder as the Serbs in Bosnia made a mockery of America's cautious caprice, the Somali warlord General Aideed humiliated the U.S. military, and Boris Yeltsin remained stubborn over Russia's meddling in the dent neighbours. In re-sponse, Bill Clinton looked, as he was, clueless. But Haiti gave Soft Pow-

er a last chance. Here was a job in which a superpower could use its strength delicately, as the new doctrine intended. The rhetoric about upholding democracy which bad been huffed and pnffed so meaninglessly over Bosnia could be revived, this time without any Serbs in the way and with-Out orienting Boris Yeltsin. Haiti was a little nut that, threatened with America's military hammer, could earn the president at least one point for exporting democracy into a cruel world.

When Jimmy Carter pulled off his highly conciliatory deal at the eleventh hour, and the first troops arrived without a shot fired. it looked as though Mr. Clinton would at last be able to demonstrate what Soft Power was all about. Milkary might had been

posedly achieved its aims without a single casualty. The superpower had shown how it could use its hammer without actually having to crack the nut.

A week later, things are midway along a sliding scale between success, failure and farce. Will the Ton-Ton Macoute and the Haitian police, with whom the Americans are 'cooperating' noder the Clinton

approach, be any more imessed by Soft Power than Radovan Karadzic or Mr. Aideed? Raoul Cédras is sull in power — the recipient of extraordinary and sudden compliments from the U.S. authorities — and will stay in Haiti after the return of the rightful presi-

That is one price of Soft Power. On the plus side, if Mr. Clinton can get Mr. Aristide restored without waging an urban guerrilla war, he will have rescued the new approach from a premature obsolescence. He will have learned, however, that a president cannot live by Soft Power alone, he has to have both the good intent and the muscle, and the hammer sometimes bas to be raised,

with a view to actual use. If force has to be used to restore Mr. Aristide, the virtuecrats will have been shown that the world just isn't the way they want it to be. That might be uncomfortable for them, but it would be far worse if the Americans end up cooperating with the Haitian military against a popular revolt in favour of Aristide by doing nothing. That would not only bury the idea of Soft Power, but would reduce the already shabby record of putting it into practice to the level of tragic

Tamils still fear India

By Amal Jayasinghe Agence France Presse

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka — Constant civil strife has turned the clock back in this Tamil beartland, where Tiger guerrillas have kept np anti-Indian rhetoric, fearing another foreign military intervention.

The separatist Tamil Tiger rebels, who run their own administration here. bombard visiting journalists with accounts of death and mayhem unleashed by Indian forces during their 32-month presence ending in March 1990.

Junior members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) told a group of foreign correspondents last week that Indians were seen by minority Tamils as symbols of the atrocities committed by the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF).
"In each dead body, we

saw the irresponsibility of (former Indian premier) Rajiv Gandbi, academic here said. He implied that the Tigers may have killed Mr. Gandhi m 1991 in retaliation for his ordering a crackdown against them.

Despite the LTTE's persistent India bashing, an exhibition organised here this week by the Tiger Economic Unit, the TEEDO, displayed alternative power sources adapted from Indian designs to suit the harsh local conditions.

The show of energy-sav-ing incwood cookers, biogas plants, dynamos driven by bicycle wheels and gasfired engines from the World War II period underscore the plight of the 800,000 Tamils living here without electricity since

Bicycles are the main mode of transport and every inch of railroad here has been removed by the Tigers to build bunkers. Gasoline and diesel vehicles are now running of kerosene mixed with thinner or vegetable

Despite the difficulties. women undergraduates turned up at the Jaffna University last week dressed in deep blue, green, red and purple Indian silk sarees. with elaborate gold thread work, to pose for their endof-term photographs.

The university itself was the scene of a bloody battle between Indian para-commandos and the LTTE, which used the campus as a hase. Most of the damage

to the buildings has been repaired, but the scars re-

Shops here are full of the popular Indian silk sarees, clothing, plastic ware and Hindi and Sonth Indian music. The Tigers at one time trained in India, separated from this area by the

narrow Palk Strait. The Jaffna hospital is also looking for sterilising equipment from India. "Indian equipment is easy to service because any technician can repair them, unlike the sophisticated machines from the West or Japan," a

doctor here said. Tamil journalists say they suspect that neighbouring India may get involved again in Sri Lanka's ethnic conflict to launch an offensive or at least militarily support the Sri Lankan security forces against the LTTE.

M. Nimalai, who works for the Eelanatham Tamil daily, said they were suspicious of Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's sending a special envoy to Colombo soon after his counterpart Chandrika Kumaratunga assumed office last mouth

Compounding the fears was a trip last week to India by senior Sri Lankan bureaucrat Lionel Fernando, who is tipped to be a key negotiator for Colombo at possible peace talks with the LTTE to resolve the

drawn-out conflict. The Roman Catbolic District of Jaffin, Thomas Saundaranayagam, said that India should not get involved in the Sri Lankan conflict again. India lost 1,140 soldiers at the hands of the LTTE during its in-

The bishop said the peo-ple of Jaffna, who are most ly Hindus, should be forbecause they were seriously affected as a result of the Indian army moving in to forcibly disarm the LTTE.

India should not do any thing to sabotage the (latest) least present it is also to the good of India that we live in peace," the bishop said. India is cure rently repatriating thousands of Tamils who had sought refuge there.

LTTE ideologist Anton

Balasingam, in an interview here, avoided referring to India but said recognition from "Sri Lanka, India and the world" was crucial 10 strengthening the economic and social strinctures built



Egypt frees 34 Paiestinian prisoners

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt has released 34 Palestinians imprisoned in the country for several years, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) top representative in Cairo Zohdi Al Kedra, told AFP on Tuesday. The group who were released last week bad already left Egypt for various destinations, he added without elaborating. The Palestinian Human Rights Commission was informed of the releases in a letter from Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Mohammad Bassiuny. In his letter he told the Commission president, Hanan Ashrawi, that the group would be released "on condition they are transferred to the autonomous Gaza Strip or any other place coordinated by the Palestinian embassy in Cairo." Dr. Ashrawi said she bad asked Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa to free 50 Palestinians arrested in Egypt mainly for not having identity papers while on the run from Israeli anthorities. Most of them were wanted for taking part in the intifada. "We are very happy by this reply which reflects a positive attitude by Egypt towards the Palestinians," Dr. Ashrawi said after receiving Mr. Bassiuny's letter. According to Union of Palestinian Women in Egypt between 105 and 110 Palestinians were being held in Egypt before the releases.

Warrants Issued against Lebanon militiamen

BEIRUT (R) — A Lebanese judge arrest warrants on Tuesday for four former militiamen accused of involvement in the 1978 killing of Christian leader Tony Franjieh and his family, judicial sources said. They said the four belonged to the right-wing Falange Party, which evolved into the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia banned last March in connection with a church hlast in February that killed 11 people. The arrest warrants were a mere formality as the four were seized a few days ago and put in jail after the same judge interviewed them on Monday. Judge Abdullah Al Bitar questioned the suspects about their alleged roles in the assassination of Franjieh, his wife, daughter and 29 bodyguards on June 13, 1978 in Ebden in northern Lebanon, the sources said. A fifth suspect in custody since the attack at the height of the 1975-90 civil war is also being questioned. LF leader Samir Geagea bas been in jail since april awaiting trial on charges stemming from the church bombing and the 1990 murder of rival Dani Chamoun and members of his family.

Burgiar kills wife of Hungarian diplomat

NICOSIA (R) — A hurglar killed the wife of a Hungarian diplomat and seriously injured him at their home in Tehran, Iran's IRNA news agency said on Tuesday. "The intruder, apparently a burglar according to eyewitnesses, killed the diplomat's wife and injured him severly. The Hungarian diplomat is in critical condition," the agency said, IRNA said the killer escaped after the incident at Mahmoudiyeh district, an exclusive neighbourhood in north Tehran near the former Hilton Hotel. It said the diplomat was the cultural attache at the Hungarian embassy in Tehran but did not name him or his wife. Police had launched an investigation, it added.

Pro-Israell militiamen hurt in attack

ndia

MARJAYOUN (AFP) — A roadside bomb exploded Tuesday in South Lebanon, slightly wounding three militiamen of Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA), a spokesman said. The militiamen were on patrol near Kfar Faluss in the central sector of Israel's self-declared "security zone" when the bomh exploded, the spokesman said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack which the SLA hlamed on "terrorists" — a term usually used by the militia for guerrillas like the Iranian-backed Hizbollah.

Lebanese daily returns to newsstands

BEIRUT (AFP) — The right-wing daily Al Amal, mouth-piece of the, Falange Party, returned to the newsstands on Tnesday after a four-year absence, with a scathing attack on Prime Minister Rafiq Al Hariri's government. The newspaper had stoped publication after sustaining heavy damages to its offices during the last two years of Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war and due to lack of funds. "If we ask the Lebanese people to voice their opinion they would say this is not the nation they want," a front-page editorial said, adding its voice to the growing opposition to Mr. Hariri. The Falange, the main Christian party during Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war, are spreading a campaign against an ambitious multi-billion dollar scheme to rebuild the war-battered city centre of Beirut.

Iraqi in fake Lebanese bill operation

BEIRUT (AFP) - Lebanese authorities bave arrested a former Iraqi diplomat and two of his compatriots smashing a counterfeiting ring, the state security at the defence ministry said on Tuesday. The diplomat, who was not named, was a former secretary at the Iraqi embassy in Beirut. Police launched investigations after seizing 35 million Lebanese pounds (around \$20,000) in fake bills earlier this month in the Bekaa Valley, it said in a statement. A week-long inquiry led state security police to arrest the Iraqi ringleader and his aides seizing an additional 80 million Lehanese pounds (around \$42,000). the statement said. The men were working out of an apartment in the Kesrwan mountains, the Christian beartland of Lebanon northeast of Beirut, where they kept sophisticated equipment worth \$50,000. They dealt exclusively in printing fake 50,000 Lebanese pound notes and 100,000 Lebanese pounds notes. But specimens of currency from the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Germany were also found on the premises. Investigations are continuing to track down other members of the gang.

UAE executes murderers, rapist

ABU DHABI (R) — The emirate of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates executed by firing squad three convicted murderers and one man found guilty of raping a schonlgirl, an official statement said on Tuesday. An Interior Ministry statement named the three murderers as Ishaq Hussein Juma, Mobamad Mousa Taher and Ibrahim Mohammad Abbas. It said a fourth man, Anwar Mohammad Sulaiman Al Maamari, was executed for kidnap and rape. The executions were carried out on Monday after appeal courts upheld their sentences and UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan confirmed them. Police said the four men were blindfolded and executed by firing squad one by one in the presence of some of their victims' families. "Maamari, a UAE national, was found guilty of kidnapping a 13-year-old girl waiting for a schoolbus early in the morning last year and raping her twice in the desert. The other men, said to be stateless, robbed and shot four currency exchange house workers, killing three, the police

Envoy says Algeria to ratify NPT

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Algeria's foreign minister an Monday announced that his government would ratify the muclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) during the current General Assembly session, but he did not set a date. "I have the bonour to solemnly announce from this podium the decision by Algeria to ratify the nuclear Non-the assembly is officially in session, Foreign Minister Mohammad Salah Dembri tol the 184-nation assembly. The assembly is officially in session throughout the year but its most active Season is usually from September to its most active Season is usually from Treaty, which has December. The 1970 non-Proliferation Treaty, which has December is a signed by 164 nations, pleges nations to refrain from been signed by 164 nations, pleges nations to refrain from

Jordan reaffirms role

(Continued from page I) for employees salaries.

Relations between Jordan and the Palestine National anthority, which administers the autonomous West Bank town of Jericho and the Gaza Strip, grew strained after the July 25 signing of the Washington Declaration, in which Israel acknowledged a special Jordanian role in caring for holy sites in Jerusalem.

The Palestinians interpreted the clause as harming their claim for political sovereignty over Jerusalem, which they want as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

The Palestine National Authority also appointed a minister with the sole duties of maintaining holy shrines in the West Bank, including Jerusalem.

Tnesday's Jordanian Cabinet statement, quoting the King, said: "There have been attempts by some employees of the Palestine National Authority to create a conflict with the Kingdom over its historic role which preserved the Arab and Muslim boly sites in the occupied territories."

It said those included the "harassment" of Jordanian employees working for Islamic shrines in the occupied territories and taking unilateral decisions, sidestep-

ping Jordan's religious role.

"His Majesty ordered the Council of Ministers to take all necessary measures which ensure an end to all attempts aimed at creating a conflict with the Kingdom and that all these decisions should not in any sense affect the brotherly relations between the Jordanian and the Palestinian people," it said.

"At the same time several statements were issued recently concerning the status of Awqaf and Islamic affairs and Islamic courts in the

West Bank, and numerous contacts with and pressures on the ministry-appointed officials were reported at a time when the Kingdom bas been striving to carry out its historic role in safeguarding these sites and in enhancing the steadfastness of the Palestinian people." it said.

The King said that Jordanian-Israeli negotiations were continuing with the aim of enabling Jordan to arrive at a lasting and comprehensive solution.

"Any high level Jordanian-Israeli contacts are being taken within the framework of the Washington Declaration and aim at pursuing the path which guarantees the restoration of our full rights in our land and our water and ensure the settlement of all outstanding issues as contained in the common agenda so that security and stability and chances for a decent and dignified life for our people can be achieved," the King said.

The Islamic affairs minister in the Palestinian self-rule government on Tuesday welcomed Jordan's decision to sever its religious ties with the West Bank.

"I think it's a good step in the right direction," the minister, Hassan Tahboub, told the Associated Press.

Sheikh Tahbouh said he was confident the controversy over Jerusalem could be settled, and hinted that the Palestinians would not insist on exclusive control.

"Jerusalem is for all Muslims and we cannot ban any Muslim from claiming his right to Jerusalem," he said. "The Palestinian National Anthority will discuss the issue with its Jordanian brothers, and we are sure that we will come to a conclusion that will satisfy everybody."

Rabin decision under fire

(Continued from page 1) came to power that construction of settlements was being "frozen" although work already started would be

completed.

But the housing ministry's director general, Arieh Mizrahi, has written to Alfe Menashe "mayor" Sholom Katan to announce that "planning will resume" to build 844 housing units on Tal Hill on the edge of the settlement and 150 others in the centre, Haaretz said.

Mr. Katan told the paper that it would be possible to start work in six months, and the decision would double the area's population of several thousands within two to three years.

Government sources told Haaretz the decision was part of a policy aiming to stop Israel baving to retreat to the 1967 ceasefire line in "problematic areas" in any peace settlement with the Palestinians, by building around the

Alfe Menashe is in the northwest of the West Bank close to the Palestinian town of Kalkilyah on the outskirts of Tel Aviv and on the edge

the line. Under the Israeli-PLO accords Palestinian self-rule was launched in Gaza and Jericho first and is to be extended across the West Bank for an interim five-year

The final status of the territories and the 120 settlements is to be negotiated after May 1996.

Khalil Tufakji, the Palestinian self-rule authority's consultant on settlements, said Israel was hoping to increase the Jewish presence along a six-kilometre east-west corridor linking Israel to Jordan.

Government spokesman Uri Dromi stressed that the new building would be privately financed. Much of the huilding by previous right-wing governments was subsidised by the state.

Israeli concern over the "security" of settlers had delayed the second phase of Palestinian self-rule in which Israeli troops are to pull ont of West Bank towns in preparation for Palestinian general elections. Autonomy began in May in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Israeli and PLO teams are to meet in Egypt Monday to hammer out details for Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

U.S. forces tighten grip

(Continued from page 1) af Port-an-Prince airport in order to free up soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division for other duties.

Another dufies.

Another 142 Haitian boat refugees arrived in Port-an-Prince from Guantanamo Bay naval base, the second group of volunteers to return to Haiti since the Americans intervened.

As of Tnesday, some 15,600 American troops have come to Haiti to help pave the way for Mr. Aristide's restoration. They have been warmly welcomed by Haiti's civilians who are eager to put years of brutal dictatorship behind them in favour of democracy.

emocracy. Haitian military authorities, bowever, have been wary of the Americans, and a firefight between the two sides killed 10 Haitians late Saturday night.

In Cap-Haitien, to the north, many authorities have simply abdicated to American forces. And in Port-au-Prince, even routine police work is now sometimes referred to the Americans.

President Clinton, meanwhile, lifted travel, economic and most other U.S. sanctions against Haiti, and urged other nations to follow suit. The aim of the trade embargo was to oust the army commander and coup leader, Lieutenant-General Cedras, and restore Mr. Aristide.

State to pay for water tariff hike

week and announced that they would stage a general strike today in protest against the decision.

(Continued from page 1)

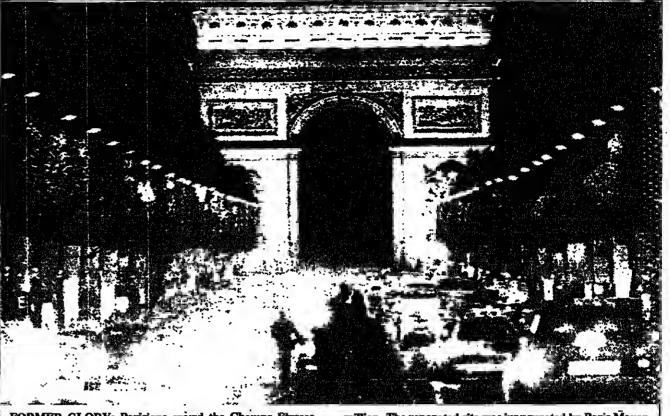
Mr. Ben Tarif, in a statement carried by Petra, said that Dr. Majali discussed the issue during Tuesday's meeting and announced that the government would cover the difference between the actual payments at the new and old rates during the period be-

tween Oct. 1 and Dec. 31.

Dr. Majali also announced that the government was setting aside ID 1 million to cover the difference and face the hurdens resulting from the increase in the tariff after Jan. 1, 1995. It was not immediately clear whether the allocation was sufficient to cover the projected increase for the entire year.

for the entire year.

Mr. Ben Tarif said a committee would be set up including government representatives and parliament members to work out the



FORMER GLORY: Parisians crowd the Champs Elysees Avenue late. Monday. The famous French avenue returned to its former glory after a two-year facelift costing \$44 million. The renovated site was inaugurated by Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac (AFP photo)

Labour MK suggests Palestine state

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel was plunged into a political storm Tuesday as proposals to change the ruling Labour Party's programme to include acceptance of a Palestinian state with an "embassy" in East Jerusalem were announced.

Israel Radio broadcast details of the proposals to be presented by Labour Party Memher of Knesset (MK) Haggai Merom, causing an outcry from enraged rightwingers.

A source close to the Labour Party said Mr. Merom would submit a document to the party leadership stating it "no longer opposes the creation of a Palestinian state and grants the Palestinians the right to establish an embassy in East Jerusalem." Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin instructed Mr. Merom to present "structural" reform proposals to the party.

Mr. Merom did not explain bow the Palestinian "embassy" would function, but said

it would be in Orient House, the current beadquarters of the Palestinian delegations to the peace talks.

The Palestinians lay claim to East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state, but Israel bas declared the boly city its "eternal" capital.

The source said Mr. Merom proposed holding an extraordinary party congress as soon as possible so that it would adopt "the new guidelines taking account of the fundamental changes which bave occurred in the region" since the last party congress in

The congress preceded the June 1992 parliamentary elections which brought Mr. Rahin to power hut came after the launching of the Middle East peace process in Madrid in October 1991.

Mr. Merom's draft programme also called on the party to grant Labour deputies full powers to achieve an accord with Syria guaranteeing Israel's "security and water supplies." And it proposed that the

government help settlers in the West Bank, Gaza and the, Golan Heights to leave the occupied territories even before an accord is reached on the final status of the territories. The level of compensation should be fixed new, Mr.

Merom suggested.
Right-wingers accused the
Labour Party of allying itself
politically with its left-wing
coalition partner Meretz.

Representatives of settlers on the Golan Heights, which Israel seized from Syria in 1967, described the proposals as a "disgrace,"

Meanwhile, Trade and Industry Minister Misha Harish, a member of the Labour Party, said the proposals were "a sure recipe for a split

Balloon message to Syria

Israeli peace activists on Tuesday let loose coloured balloons with messages in Arabic telling Syrian President Hafez Al Assad they support giving back land for

Dozens of supporters of the left-wing Meretz party gathered near the frontier with Syria as Legislator Naomi Hazan sent off dozens of halloons, each with a peace message attached.

"We are reaching the point now where we have to de-

But just a few kilometres from the Meretz rally, thousands of Israelis visited a group of 13 Golan settlers who bave been on a liquid fast since Sept. 11 as part of a protest campaign to block withdrawal from any part of the Heights.

Thousands of people have been visiting the protesters every day during the weeklong feast of tahernacles which ended Tuesday. The holiday traditionally is a time for family outings.

Mainstream press lags behind —panelists

(Continued from page 1)

change as based on "the pursuit of truth," then the papers

suit of truth," then the papers have achieved very little. "With an official mentality that sees the truth as none other than the safeguarding

that sees the truth as none other than the safeguarding of the security of the state, and a mainstream press that knows the limits of its power, it will take journalism some years, if we are on the optimistic side, to adopt the pursuit of truth as its mission," Mr. Hawatmeh said.

Similarly, if one were to assess the Jordanian media in terms of substances, the progress in the last four years has been minimal, be said.

On the other band, if quality and quantity were the measurements, then the Jordanian media bave indeed made remarkable progress, he said.

It has to be remembered that the entire change, positive or negative, has taken place in a "higher plateau," Mr. Hawatmeb said, referring to the general elections of 1989 and 1993, the reintroduction of a multi-party political system and the emergence of a vibrant parliament

in the Kingdom.

Mr. Hawatmeb attributed what he saw as the lack of meaningful progress nn the part of the three mainstream newspapers to five distinct the opposition of the control of t

reasons. They were:

— There has been little change in the people, including the top editors, in the mainstream press. "The hierarchy moved at the same place as the regime did," be said. "It was going to be a peaceful, slow process of change. Some even thought the democratisation process was not real."

- The three main news-

papers were still in the majnrity owned by the government, with top two, Al Rai and Al Dustour, continuing to thrive economically and financially. "The shareholders, represented by the board of directors which appoints the editors-in-chief, saw neither a reason to rock the boat, nor solid competition to force change. Sawt Al Sha'b, which has been losing money consistently, was content to receive subsidy from the state in return for towing

the line."

certain complacency, hnt tbey were powerless to change things. The Jordan Press Association was at no time available to help the

 While the democratisation of Jordan has brought more freedom and independence for the press, the process has not heralded the advent of institution-huilding where journalism was concerned. "I am talking about a press club, a press institute or a press foundation, basically organisations which concern themselves with the rights and responsibilities of the news media. Newspapers will never be able to do this on their own," Mr. Hawatmeh

— The new Press and Publications Law enacted in 1993 imposed legal restrictions on the foreign amovement of the

Jordanian press.

"But more importantly, perhaps, it is in the political and socio-economic fields that the leaders of the press, bave failed to find themselves, to establish policies for their newspapers," Mr. Hawatmeb added.

Mr. Sharif of Al Dustour, in his working paper, tackled the issue of the coverage of opposition in the Jordanian media.

Mr. Sharif noted that the

Mr. Sharif noted that the government continues to own partial but significant sbares of newspapers and said that this constitutes an obstacle to the papers' editors exercising free options in extending liberal coverage of opposition parties' activities.

Another burdle, be said, was the social structure, "which makes it difficult to criticise any individual in Jurdan since such criticism would be taken as levelled against the particular tribe of that individual, who does not make any distinction between his post and his person."

Furthermore, said Mr. Sharif, jnurnalists are still affected by the martial rule era.

Miss Andoni tackled in-

Miss Andoni tackled investigative reporting in her paper. She stressed that it was untrue that the media in the West is granted more freedom than the Arab media.

Noting that the Jordanian government in the past used to restrict the freedom of the

and investigative reporting was linked to development in the field of public freedoms.

She distinguished between leakage of information and investigative reporting, saying the "leakage" of information makes journalists as a tool by those leaking information to hit at other sides and their interests.

Ms. Andoni said that the martial rule era in Jordan has negatively affected the general psychological conditions of journalists by being a main source of anxiety for them and causing them the feeling of being professionally inse-

Dr. Fanek, a columnist for Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, dealt in his paper with coverage of economic news

and corruption cases.

Dr. Fanek said the Jordanian press enjoys a reasonable margin of the freedom of expression and the freedom to criticise, especially since the democratisation process started in 1989, admitting that this freedom was not fully exploited. He attributed

this to the pre-1989 era.

He said the Jordanian press gives due coverage space for economic news, but that the coverage mostly relies on outside sources such as foreign news agencies. Thus the Jordanian press publishes reports about foreign financial markets, exchange rates and gold prices in foreign countries because of the unavailability of local economic news, he pointed

Dr. Fanek said Jordan had only a limited number of part-time economic writers, and there are almost no full-time economy editors at the local newspapers. He concluded that these editors very often commit grave mistakes when they misunderstand some economic news.

The columnist said that while the daily Jordanian press avoid tackling corruption issues because if lack of evidence to corroborate the stories and to avoid legal and tribal risks, weekly newspapers welcome publishing any such stories without hesitation to help increase their

circulation.

Thus, he said, dealing with corruption by the press is either one of two extremes—either one phlisbing without verifying news, nr ignoring

Dr. Fanek also said that the Jordanian public opinion tends to helieve corruption charges without evidence, and consequently those, charged (by the press) are indicted by the public until

proven inmocent.

He concluded by saying that democracy was the most bealthy atmosphere for preventing corruption because a free press can detect it. He theorised that the budding democracy in Jordan and the besitation of the press in carrying out its duties in fighting corruption or in bandling corruption issues hastily and irresponsibly makes them an easy target for corrupt officials instead of having the

opposite effect.

At the outset of the seminar, Director of the University of Jordan's Centre for
Strategic Studies Mustafa
Hamarneh asserted that the
press can play a key role in
strengthening democracy.

strengthening democracy.
Reviewing the centre's philosophies. Dr. Hamarneb said organising the seminar reflected the centre's keenness to deal with issues of concern to the society and to handle them in a scientific

and well-studied manner.

The role of Jordan Television and Radio was dealt with in the afternoon session.

Presenting working oppositions

m the afternoon session.

Presenting working papers on the subject were Radi Al Khas, who served as head of the Jordan Broadcasting Corporation between 1989 and June 1994, and Jawad Zada, a senior official at Jordan

Radio.

In essence, both papers said without financial and administrative independence of the broadcasting corporation, it was an impossible task to bring about dramatic changes in the approach at television and radio, which, for all technical and practical purposes, are an arm of the government.

Mr. Al Khas, who now heads a private sector media organisation, said he had tried to introduce changes during his tenure at the broadcasting corporation, but found the task too hard in the absence of financial and administrative autonomy.

A session on the coverage
of the peace process in the
s Jordaman media concluded
the day's deliberations of the
seminar (details of that sessinn will be reported in

World Bank says private firms can revive Egyptian economy

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, racing against time to create new jobs for its ever-growing populatioo, needs to lift barriers which have stifled its private sector for decades, the World Bank said Tues-

The bank said small private firms, left out in the cold in the first three years of the country's wide-ranging eco-nomic reform programme, held the key to boosting exports, stimulating economic growth and creating employ-

"Egypt's economy is in much better shape than three ears ago. But the (reforms) have not yet delivered in one crucial component — the private sector response has not happened, said Marcelo Gingale, resident World Bank economist in Egypt.

"Egypt has to create 500,000 new jobs a year until 2000. You cannot wait. You have to see why your private sector is not reacting," he told reporters at the launch of a World Bank report on private sector development

The report puts Egyptian unemployment at around 17.5 per cent of the labour force, or 2.8 million people, of whom 70 per cent are under 20. The population of 58 million is growing at more than two per cent a year, adding pres sure on the labour

"Population growth is the single most important problem faced by Egypt's economy in the longterm," says the report.

It says that around threequarters of the jobs which can be expected to be created before the end of the decade employing less than 10 peo-

Those firms account for almost 99 per cent of all companies in the private sector, which itself accounts for two thirds of the Egyptian labour force.

But it says four decades of inward-oriented central planning have left those small companies ill-prepared to bear the burdeo of creating some 3.6 million jobs.

The report sets out six major hurdles private firms face in Egypt: Complicated tax laws, lack of skilled workers, lack of bank credit to small firms, uncertainty over government economic policy, excess bureaucracy and unfavourable judicial systems. It describes the lack of longer term credit available straint for private business in

It says privatisation, the flagship of the economic reform programme, should be expanded to include govern-ment monopolies such as the oil and gas industry, railways. ports and airports.

It even mentions putting a market price on the Soez Canal, an emblem of Egyptian patriotism whose nationalisation by then President Gamal Abdul Nasser in 1956 led a joint Britisb, French and Israeli invasion.

The report was prepared ahead of a conference oext mooth bringing together Egyptian busin ernment officials and World Bank experts to tackle problems still holding back the private sector and the sluggish progress of privatisation.

Lebanese government under pressure to ease daily economic hardships

BEIRUT (AFP) — The Lebanese government, which has embarked on a costly post-war reconstructioo scheme, is facing mounting pressure from political, religious and trade union leaders who warn the country is on the brink of social explosion because of spiralling iofla-

"People are hurting and cannot take more and more promises," said Elias Abn Rizk, head of the 400,000-strong General Confederation of Trade (CGTL), which is threatening nationwide strikes and demonstrations.

Chinese tax

revenue jumps

BEIJING (AFP) — China's

tax overhanl boosted govern-

ment revenue by one third in

the first eight mooths of the

year, but evasion and arrears

remained a serious problem

in many areas, the China

Daily has said. Total tax re-

venues were op 33.7 per cent

from January to August over

the same period last year,

State Administration of

Taxation officials were

quoted as saying. The offi-cials gave no breakdown for the first eight months, but

said that in August industrial and commercial tax revenues

had risen 30.7 per cent. In-

dustrial turnover tax income

totalled 15.46 billion yuan,

up 33.6 per cent, in August,

while consumption tax and

value added tax revenoe hit

3.26 billion yuan and 12.2

billion yuan, np six per cent

and 44.3 per cent respective-

ly, the report said.

The CGTL is demanding an 88 per cent pay rise, claiming that prices have risen by

an average of 155 per cent between early 1992 and mid-The Association of

ebanese Banks reported a 12 per cent inflation rate for the first seven months of the year and said the country's ecocomy was stagnating.

The head of the Marcoite

ehurch, Lebaooo's largest Christian community, has also joined the fray, charging in a recent Sunday sermon that "clouds of bunger" hung over Lebanon.

His words were echoed by the Muslim Fundamentalist Hizbollah group which bas warned of a "social explo-

Parliame otary speaker Vabih Berry meanwhile called on the government to declare "a state of ecocomie

"We must take urgeot steps to fight against the cost of bving and monopolies and give priority to readjusting monthly wages in order to restore the people's dignity,' he said, adding that ignoring the situation would make things worse.

For Rima, a cleaning woman who earns the equivalent of around \$10 a day, the

worst has already arrived. "This year I cannot afford to send my four children to school. The girls will stay home but the eight-year-old boy will go," she said. "Every day we must try a

new juggling act just to sur-vive Life was easier during the war," said a press photo-grapher who asked not to be

Molti-milliooaire Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, the driving force bebiod a largescale post-war reconstruction scheme, maintains the governmeot has worked hard to improve the quality of life in banon since the end of the 1975-1990 war.

Earlier this year it anthorised salary increases, setting minimom wages at around \$120 — well below the \$870 which the CGTL maiotains is needed by an average Lebanese family each month.

Lebanon has a building site on every corner, new telephone and power networks are being installed and the Hariri governmeot bas secured a balt to the devaluation of the Lebanese lira.

Bot Nada and Samir, a coople who got married in the summer of 1993, are coosidering emigrating to seek a better quality of life. With a combined salary of

\$1,000 they canoot make ends meet or reot an apartment. "Having a child is out of the question," Nada said.

Like most Lebanese, Nada and Samir must pay two monthly electricity bills one to the state which supplies around four hours of electricity each day and another to a private electricMark

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In addition to the monthly water bill many other families pay up to \$60 a month to buy water because of daily shortages and those with small children fork out an extra \$50 for bottled water.

ity company.

"Our economic future is very solid and ... Lebanon is moving ahead towards economie balance," Mr. Hariri said this month.

But his words are lost on the Lebanese people and oewspapers who are demanding immediate solutions to power and water cuts, rising prices, congested roads and pollntion, and calling for a "better quality of life."

to small firms as "probably Derivatives to come under IMF spotlight

LONDON (R) — Severe turbulence on world markets this year is likely to put financial derivatives under an intense spotlight at the annual International Monetary Fund (IMF) meeting which starts in

Madrid this week. Derivatives are financial products like swaps and options that help buyers and sellers to reduce their risks or

to increase their risk sharply in the hope of enhanced pro-

markets The market has buzzed Gay Evans, chairman of with news of losses on derivathe International Swaps and tives by well-known com-Derivatives Associatioo (ISDA), could face tough panies throughout 1994, tarnishing the reputation of the questions from investors when she addresses a fringe. burgeooiog and complex

meeting in Madrid. "The stage was set for much of the attention that derivatives are receiving by the largely unanticipated interest rate rises in the United States and financial losses related to those increases," Ms. Evans, a managing director at Bankers Trust in Londoo.

In February the Federal Reserve, the U.S. central bank, raised interest rates for the first time for five years, sending shock waves through world fioancial markets.

told a recent conference.

Bonds, at all-time bighs, crasbed into a downward trend from which they have yet to recover. Stocks headed lower, too, and currency markets also soffered.

Many market operators were caught out since they had not expected the ioterest rate rise so early in the year.

U.S. group Procter Gam-ble said in April it lost \$102 million through a complex derivatives strategy after interest rates rose. Other firms, Germany's Meta gesellschaft, lost money on derivatives linked to the energy markets. Investment fund managers

and dealers also felt the pain.

This forced regulators around the world to scrutinise the markets, fearing that the sometimes highly leveraged structure of deals involving a lot of borrowing

— beightened "systemic
risk," the danger that the
collapse of ooe firm could

destabilise the overall finan-

Oman, India to lay deepest undersea gas line

DUBAI (R) - Oman and India bave agreed to lay the world's deepest underwater natural gas pipeline as part of a multi-billioo dollar deal, the Indian embassy said in a statement Tuesday.

The statement said the state-owned Oman Oil Company would work on the second phase of a feasibility study and subject to its results, a final long-term gas supply deal would be signed in July 1995.

Oman and India signed what the statement described as "a historic agreement" on the principal provisions of a long-term gas supply contract in Muscat on Monday night. said the feasibility study would involve "confirmation of gas reservers in Oman, upstream gas field

reconfirmation of gas reservers in Oman, upstream gas field development survey (and) selection of the pipeline roote."

It would also have to find "specific solutions for outstanding technical challenges associated with the laying and outstanding technical challenges associated with the laying and operating of a sub-sea pipeline at depths exceeding 3,000 metres."

Pipes at such depths have to withstand the enormous pressure of the water above.

pressure of the water above.

"This will be the deepest sub-sea pipelioe in the world—the deepest existing pipeline being at depths of about 800 metres," it said.

The project, when finally concloded, would be one of two major gas export schemes Oman is planning as a supplement to its crude oil and would provide India with much needed energy to fuel a boom in demand caused by

Tried & Liked IT'S TOPS DAJANI'S

Amra Hotel. 6th Circle. Amman.

Gold & Gems Jewelry

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening when you can accomplish a lot if you are careful not to be over-extravagant or to allow some personal pre-judice to take over control. Forget the homework that isn't really important.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Study all practical affairs and know how to handle them ideally in the days ahead. Show that you are proficient in your actions.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Come to a better understanding with associates who are proposing a good deal. Be willing to compromise to keep the peace.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Set a goal for yourself and then you can get much work done. Accomplish a good deal. Take needed health treatments to look your best. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) After your tasks are

completed, get into recreations that really appeal to you, but don't LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Forget that feeling of resentment at home and find the right way to have greater accord beneath your roof. Learn to control your temper.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Communicating with those with whom you want to do business in the future is wise, so set things

up now so you can proceed. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Concentrating on finances is wise so that you can manage money better now and in the future. Find new sources of income for the future.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You want your own way now and the benefits which can accrue, so get busy and work until the sun goes down to make real progress.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have many worries, but be patient and solve them one by one during the day. Don't lose your temper tonight with your mate.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A dynamic friend can help you during the day in gaining a cherished wish. Don't make important decisions at night.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) It is important you safeguard your reputation both today and tonight, so don't do anything erratic which you could regret later. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Before you get into some new venture, be sure you have the right information about it. Avoid a new contact who is suspicious.

THE Daily Crossword by Mark & Jame Crownel

Birthstone of September: Saphhire — Lapis Lazulii



Peanuts







cial system.

Andy Capp







Mutt'n'Jeff



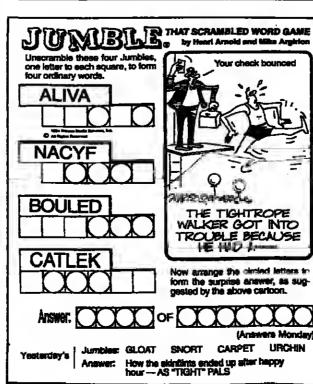


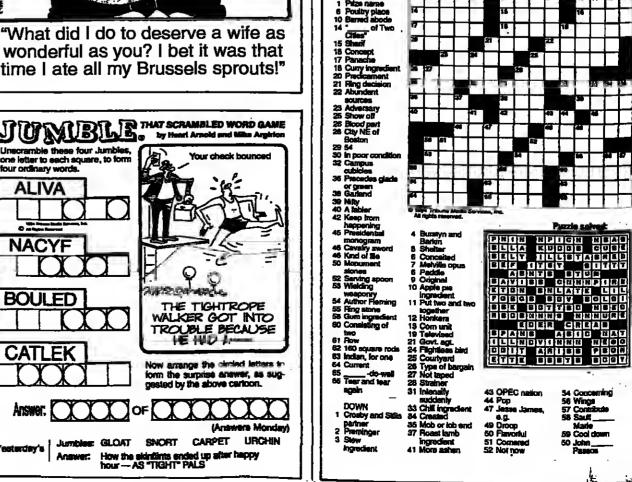






wonderful as you? I bet it was that time I ate all my Brussels sprouts!"







Financial Markets Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Market

Светенсу	New York Close Date 26/9/94	Tokyo Close Date 27/9/94
Sterling Pound	1.5720	1.5758
Deutsche Mark	1.5536	1.5510
Swiss Franc	1.2871	1.2832
French Franc	5.3085	5.3022**
Japanese Yen	98.75	98.46
European Curreny Unit	7.2308	1.2306**

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mrocurrency Interest Re	rtes		Date: 27/	
Currency .	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.81	5.00	5.43	5.87
Sterling Pound	5.16	5.62	6.00	7.06
Deutsche Mark	4.68	4.81	5.00	5.43
Swiss Franc	3.62	3.75	4.12	₽.50
French Franc	5. 25	5.37	5.68	6.18
Japanese Yen	2.15	2.18	2.25	2.43
European Currency Unit	5.54	5.77	6.15	6.81

Date: 27/9/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6970	0.6990
Sterling Pound.	1.0967	1.1022
Deutsche Mark	0:4490	0.4512
Swiss Franc	0.5421	0.5448
French Franc	0.1314	0.1321
Japanese Yen"	0.7072	0.7107
Dutch Guilder	0.4006	0.4026
Swedish Krona	****	****
Ita lian Lira*	0.0445	0.0447
Belgian Franc	*****	*****

Other Currencies	Date	Date: 27/9/199		
Currency	Bid	Offer		
Bahraini Dinar	1,8330	1.8500		
Lehanese Lira*	0.04100	0.04220		
Sandi Riyal	0.1855	0.1874		
Kuwaiti Dizar	2.3130	2.3470		
Qatari Riyal	0.1903	0.1923		
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150		
Omani Riyai	1.7910	1.8170		
UAE Dirbam	0.1892	0.1902		
Creek Drachma*	0.2735	0.3145		
Cypriot Pound	1.3950	1.5000		

European oil refiners squeezed by slim margins

oil companiés are being squeezed by slim profit margins oo refining as gasoline prices slide and heating fuel fails to compensate, industry analysts say.

By stockpiling huge quanti-ties of gas oil — heating fuel — ahead of the northern bemisphere winter, refiners bave kept a lid oo prices in a season when they are usually

oo the way up. "We're in a oo man's land right now. We're at the end of the gasoline season and have significant gas oil stock on both sides of the Atlantic." said Peter Bogin at Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Paris.

U.S. beating oil stocks are 10.4 per ceot above last year's levels at 142.5 million barrels, according to the

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UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL EMOSTRIES JORDAN DEGUSTRIES & MARCH/JINCO WATTOWAL CHEEK & WINE MASUFACTUS JORDAN SULPRO-CHEMICAL

LONDON (R) - European American Petroleum Insti-

Analysts say there is now so much oil in tanks that if demand does not rise as expected, traders will have to sell unwanted supplies at discounted prices.

Profits from refining crude oil bave been hit further by plungiog gasoline prices as the peak U.S. car-driving season ends.

Over the past month, the price for benchmark brent crude oil has risen by 2.8 per cent to \$16.30 per barrel while that of unleaded gasoline in Europe bas fallen by 9.7 per cent to \$167 per ton-

Mr. Bogin says a typical refining margin in Europe is around \$1.50 per barrel, barely enough to pay for expensive upgrading of plants

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AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

that environmental law re-

"Europe is a very slow growth market but reficers are having to make heavy investments to keep pace with environmental laws," he

European refiners' main concern now is a tightening of rules on the sulphur contect of motor diesel from 0.2 per cent to 0.05 per ceot in Octo-

The high cost of this upgrading is oot being met by refinery profits, Mr. Bogin

He added that beavy fuel oil is the unlikely beoeficiary of a trend towards lighter crudes with lower sulphur content in Europe.

Because of a lightening of Saudi Arbia's crude export mix and a steady increase in Europe's refining conversion capacity, fuel oil production is dropping as many Western economies emerge from four-year recession.

European fuel oil prices bave falleo 3.9 per cent over the past mooth to \$74 per tonne. But high sulpour foel's average discount to Brent Crude so far this year is \$4 per barrel, compared with a \$8 discount for the same period last year.

bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3490/00

One ounce of gold \$394.20/394.60

Moroccan state to sell 'financial jewel'

RABAT (R) — The Moroccan government annunced plaos Monday to sell its majority stake in the state's main investment holding company, SNI.

Its 67 per cent holding in the Societe Nationale d'Investissement (SNI) is worth 2.5 billion dirhams (\$284 millinn), Privatisation Minister Abder Rahman Saaidi told a news conference.

"It is Morocco's financial and economic jewel. It has not even one dirham in debts," be said. "We will call for bids on Sept. 28 for 51 per cent of SNI and the remaining 16 per ceot will be offered to the public and other institutions through the Casablanca Bourse.

"Eighty per ceot of the 16 per cent shares will be placed on the stock market to attract a wider public, the rest is for mutual funds," Mr. Saaidi

said. The call for bids is valid for 45 days, he said.

Founded in 1966, SNI had at the end of last year spent 505 million dirhams (\$56 million) building up stakes in 41 companies, officials said.

Cement and agro-industry account for 51 per cent of its holdings and 70 per cent of its revenue. It also bas shares in the financial, insurance, chemical, mining, automobile

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Danish crowns

Swedish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

Swiss francs

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling

rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsessioo on the Loodon Foreign Exchange and

1.5519/29 1.7379/89

1.2841/51

31.90/94

1560.0/1.5

98.26/36

7.4736/36

6.7977*1*27

6.0936/86

\$1.5738/48

D'ANGELO

AUTHENTIC

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and commercial sectors. "We have decided that 35 per cent of the capital will be ceded to companies already established in Morocco which have a good reputation," the

minister said. Foreign investors cao purchase stakes in the 16 per cent to be offered to private institutions, be said.

The company's board of directors includes representatives of the Banque Natiooale de Developpement Economique (BNDE) and the Banque Marocaine du Commerce Exterieur (BMCE). The state has 50 per cent of BMCE and 43.5 per ceot of BNDE. Both are also due to be privatised by the end of the year, officials said.

GIC looks at 21 projects in the region

The United Arab Emi-

The venture, still under study, will bave a capital of 13 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$43 million) and the rest rest will come from Saudi and Kuwaiti investors, Mr. Fayez

The other 20 projects wer Mr. Fayez said.

their cost or say how large a stake the GIC might invest in

DUBAI (R) - The Golf Iovestment Corp (GIC), owned equally by six Arab Gulf states, is considering investing in 21 industrial and agricultural projects in the region, its chief executive was quoted as saying.

rates' official WAM news agency quoted Khaled Al Fayez as saying projects under study included a pharmaceuticals venture in Kuwait io which the GIC bad agreed in principle to take a 10 to 12 per cent stake.

in the fields of manufacturing including an aluminium smeker in Qatar — and petrochemicals, or agriculture,

The ageocy did not give details of the projects and

1,240,753



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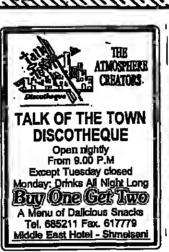








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Saudi prince to buy share in Canadian hotel chain

DUBAI (R) - A Saudi prince who this year came to the rescue of Euro Disney has offered to buy 25 per cent of Canada's Four Seasons botels, the latest in a series of international investments worth billions of dolldars.

The announcement was made Tuesday in a state-ment sent to Reuters by the Riyadh office of Prince Al Waleed Bin Talal Bin Abdol Aziz, a 37-year-old multi-billionaire and nepbew of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

The statement said the prince and Isadore Sharp, chairman and president of Four Seasons, "announced today that they signed definitive binding agree-ments" under which the prince would offer to acquire 25 per cent of the stock held by the public for 22 Caoadian dollars a

sbare. It said Mr. Sharp would sell the prince 25 per cent of bis holdings at the same price, but did not say bow big the stake was.

"The board of directors of Four Seasons bas reviewed the transaction and will recommend that shareholders accept the offer," it

It said the prince would invest about 165 million Canadian dollars (\$122 million) to acquire the 25 per cent sbare.

Mr. Sbarp would continue as chairman, president and chief executive officer.

But Mr. Sbarp and the prince would eoter a sbareholders agreement governing their future rela-tionship, under which two of the prince 5 representa

tives would join the board. Prince Al Waleed in June came to the rescue of Euro Disney's \$1.14 billion stock rights issue, which almost flopped due to weak oe mand for the new sbares:

The prince, who controls United Saudi Commercial Bank, said in July he had bought a 50 per cent stake in the prestigious San Fraocisco-based Fairmont hotel chain for an undisclosed sum.

But a group be backed failed in a bid to take 57 per cent of France's Luxury Meridien hotel chain this month.

The prince is a grandson of Saudi Arabia's fouoder and is one of the ricbest businessmen in the oil-ricf.

kingdom.

He is the largest sharebolder in the U.S. banking
giant citicorp and in 1993 he acquired 10 per ceot in Saks Fifth Avenue, the New York fashion retailer.

Four Seasons botels in 1992 acquired the Hong-Kong based Regent Hotels International Ltd and the statement referred to the Four Seasons-Regent

"The prince will work closely with Four Seasons-Regent in identifying opportunities to acquire and develop luxury botels for four Seasons-Regent to manage and for Prince Al Waleed to invest in," the statement said.

"The prince intends to allocate approximately 100 million Canadian dollars (\$74 million) to this programme, and as a first step the parties plan for Four Seasons-Regent to manage a luxury hotel now being developed by the prince in the Saudi capital Riyadh." it added.

The statement quoted the prince as saying his new venture was 'consistent with my strategy to invest significant amounts of capital with superior management learns throughout the world."

It gooted Mr. Sharp. as saying the investment would enable Four Seasons to "accelerate our growth plans globally, further enhancing long-term shareholder value.

It said Prince Al Waleed has built a multi-billion dollar business with interests in construction, real estate, banking, travel, broadcast media, supermarkets and other industries.

Princess Haya aims at Atlanta Olympics

China snubs Japan but will not boycott Asian Games

BEIJING (R) — China Tues-no day angrily cancelled a visit ad: hy one of its leaders to next 10: week's Asian Games in Japan but said it would not boycon the event, despite the attendance of a top Taiwan politi-

Blaming "political trouble mit created by the Taiwan authorities and the Japanese size government," the firreign ministry said China had "nn choice" but to cancel state reconncillor Li Tieyting's plans it to travel in Hiroshima for the

नः egames. कार्यः "The Chinese government herehy expresses its deep regret at that and lodges its protest with the Japanese gnyernment, a ministry spokesman told Xinhua news

The carefully calibrated rein prisal was seen as ending the dispute over Tokyo's determination — despite China's protests — to let Taiwan Vice Premier. Hsu Li-Teh attend

China said its 700-strong delegation, the largest and arost formidable, would attend the four-yearly games hat open Sunday to promnte mutual "understanding and friendship.

IRANIANS PRACTISE: Iranian soccer players Varmazyar

Sadegh (left) and Andesir Ghalenoci in the Athletes Village

on the way to practise for the Asian Games Tuesday (AFP

Organisers fear typhoon

HISOSHIMA, Japan (R) — The threat of a typhoon

forced Asian Games organisers to announce they were

temporarily dismantling tents, signs and fences at competi-

tion venues Tuesday, five days before the event was due to

Organising committee officials said Typhoon Orchid

could hit western Japan Thursday and they had decided to

"We are seriously worried about the typhoon's moves," said committee President Hironoshin Furuhashi.

The typhoon was expected to hring heavy rain and winds

of up to 180 kph when it reached parts of Japan, forecasters

take precautions at the venues.

ment spokesman Kozo Igarashi praised China for attending the games, despite its earlier refusal to rule out a

"This is significant for hulding the event in a cordial atmosphere," Igarashi said nf the games, expected to draw 7,300 athletes and officials from 42 nations.

Beijing had warned nf "grave consequences" unless Tokyo cancelled HSU's visa hut in recent days made clear was unwilling to swallow the hitter pill of a boycott.

China's foothallers and some other athletes were already trickling into Hiroshima's games village and hundreds of others were awaiting lights from Beijing. In its main evening news

Tuesday, state radio quoted Li Ruihuan, a member of the standing committee of the Communist Party's ruling polithuro, as telling the Chinese team the games are the biggest and most important sports event of the year

Since the last Asian Games in 1990 in Beijing, there have been great political and economic changes and the international status of China has greatly increased, which will focus attention on the team. Li said.

The first group of the 783-memher team, which will take part in 31 events, is due tn leave for Hiroshima Wednesday, the radin said. China regards Taiwan as a renegade province and opposes its use of sport to battle diplomatic isolation.

The dispute hlew np into a diplomatic frarcas, with a testy confrontation Mnnday between the Japanese and Chinese foreign ministers at the United Nations.

"What could have heen prevented has been allowed to happen and the Chinese people will not forget it," Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qiehen angrily tuld Japan's Yuhei Konn.

Qian added that Tokyo

had set a "disgusting precedent" by allowing Taiwan to politicise the Asian Games. The noisiest bilateral row in years cast a cloud niver the Hiroshima Games, where

Chinese athletes are expected to shine, and evoked references in Japan's wartime aggressinn in China which cost the lives of 21 million But it was also a rare inst-

ance of Tokyo taking a tough public stand against Beijing. China initially savaged Japan's plans to welcome Taiwan President Lee Teng-Hui. That dispute was settled after the Olympic Council of Asia, which issued the original invitation to Lee, effectively withdrew it.

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AFP) — Her Royal High-ness Princess Haya is the latest blue blood entrant

jumping and a rare female

athlete at the Asian

The 20-year-old daughter of His Majesty King Hus-

sein is keen on promoting

Jordanian wnmen's parti-

countries, women do not

have a role in sport," the

Princess said here Tuesday.

"But that is not the case in

my country and I am only

concerned about sport in

and politics in my coun-

Britain's Princess Anne,

the Princess Royal, led the

regal canter into show-

jumping. She subsequently

became head of the Inter-

national Equestrian Fed-

eration and an infinential

member of the Internation-

al Olympic Committee

But Princess Haya, who

is studying at Oxford Uni-

versity, was the first female

to represent Jurdan in in-

ternational showjumping at

Now three of the five

riders in the Inrdanian team are women. No other Middle Eastern country has

such a large female contin-"It is my belief that they

can and will make of their

lives what they wish to,"

said the Princess of women

in other Arab countries. "It

is up to them what they

"I have always trained

seriously, but last year I

decided to make a serious

commitment to the sport,

said the Princess, who gave

np riding Arab thorongh-

breds for showjumpers be-

cause she sought "some-

Atlanta in 1996.

the age of 12.

"As long as I have been growing up, women have taken an active role in sport

"In some Middle East

cipation in sports.

Jurdan.

Japanese sources have said both sides accepted Hsu's attendance as a compromise. But Beijing last week began attacking Tnkyn nver the visit, sparking rumnurs that elderly powerhrokers had pulled rank on the fnreign

Tokyo stood its ground, saying it accepted what it regarded as Hsu's nonpolitical missinn of representing Taipei's hid to host the 2002 Asian Games.

Qian rejected this, attack-ing Tukyo's alleged "connivance" with Taiwan and charging that Japan had succumbed to a shrewd nationalist bid for diplomatic support for Taiwan's autonomy.

China has refused to rule out an invasion of Taiwan tn prevent it from proclaiming its independence.

Japan counts

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AFP)

— Japan has devoted billions of dollars to staging the Asian Games, hut the host nation knows it will suffer in competition because it only spends peannts on its

The authorities in Hiroshima, where the 12th Games start Sunday, say more than \$15 billion has been paid out for new stadiums, roads, hotels and a new airport since they were awarded the event. Bnt the Japanese Olympic Committee, one of the richest in Asia, has spent just 60 million yen (\$600,000) on training the athletes that the politicians are counting on to ustify their massive outlay.

y is to blame, say athletes. While the rest of the world embraces professionalism more every year. Japan has insisted on keeping sport

Japanese experts reckon that China's state-run sports machine has pumped \$1.5

South Korea has a sports pension scheme under which best athletes are guaranteed

wish to achieve." The Princess aims to make the Asian Games her next step to competing in the Olympic Games in

dearly in gold medal terms, sending the country's comdecline over the past 20 power at the New Delhi 1986 when it hosted the

"Onr competitive levels were at rock bottom at the last Beijing Games," admitted Yasutaka Matsuddaira, head of the Japanese delegation in Hiroshima.

million alone into Ma Jun- 199 golds has been cut back

Haarhuis beaten in Kuala Lumpur Open

the second game of the second set and never looked

"I started out okay, hut I didn't feel like I was playing too good," said Haarhuis,

Matsuoka fired seven aces

Thursday.

thing more dangerous."

Serbia and Montenegro. In foothali, for example,

the next European Championships may not be until 1996, but the Yugoslavs will be too late even for that as the qualifying phase started earlier this month. The same is also true of qualifiers for the Under-21 Enropean Championship — which dou-bles as a qualifier for the 1996

also paved the way for cultu-Olympics in Atlanta. What's more, the lifting of the sporting embargo is for an initial 100 days only, and is dependent upon a favourable report on border enforcement due this week from

U.N. teams in the field. The sanctions can be reimposed with five days' notice if the United Nations deter-

insignificant support of Juan Antonio Samaranch, presi-dent of the International

called on sporting federations

may yet prove decisive.

Miljan Miljanic, head of the Yugoslav Football Federation, has meanwhile been locked in talks since last week with the relevant Swiss-based football authorities - UEFA in Europe and FIFA on the world stage.
But Miljanic, who de-

scribes the sanctions as "sporting terrorism" admits that his chances of success are

Instead, he is anxious to organise a series of friendlies with the world's top nationalteams — generating publicity and, more importantly, badly-needed income for the federation.

"It would allow us to measure our possibilities, from a sporting point of view, and at the same time hring considerable financial rewards," he

Miljanic, who is also the national chief coach, claimed in Sunday's edition of Politiha newspaper that he was already talking to 14 national foothall associations — Brazil, Argentina, Mexica, USA, England, France, Spain, Italy, Russia, Greece, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Japan and Anetrolic

Japan and Australia.

However, both the U.N.
Security Council's decision and the moves which have been made as a result have been hitterly criticised hy a top Bosnian footballing fi-

Mirsad Fazlagic, manager of Sarajevo FC and coach of the Bosnian national side, expressed his ontrage at the moves to allow the rump Yugoslavia to re-join the sporting world community.

match-fixers face life ban

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) Malaysian soccer officials, confronted with a bribery scandal, bave threatened players with life bans for Since TOTAL

match-fixing.
Foothall Association of
Malaysia (FAM) officials warned Tuesday that teams whose players were found guilty of taking bribes would also he suspended from

Malaysia Cup competition. The FAM council met behind closed door Sunday to discuss the allegations of rampant match-fixing, the officials said.

Czech star Michael Vana, who plays for Singapore, was charged in court recently with allegedly taking bribes totall-ing 375,000 Singapore dollars (\$251,000) from a bookmak-

Since Vana's arrest last month, at least four players for the Malaysian state team bave admitted taking money in return for fixing games in

in return for fixing games in the Malaysian Cup tournament, local newspapers said. FAM Deputy President Prince Ahdullah Ahmad Shah said Sunday that all teams would have to post 500,000 ringgit (\$200,000) with the association for the with the association for the

next Malaysian Cup season.

The money will ensure players are paid promptly and in full, to reduce the lure of bribes, he said.

One player, his face partly obscured, said on national television recently that he took money from bookies because administrators were slow to pay him.

As part of an nn-going probe into football corrup-tinn, Malaysia's Anti-Corruption Agency recently ordered 20 premier league players in central Pahang state to declare their assets.

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cost of amateurism

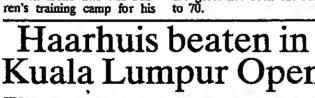
Japan's traditionalist socie-

up to \$2,500 a month for life. A Japanese Olympic gold medallist will get a sport pay-ment of \$30,000, hut no

The attitude has cost Japan petitive sport into a spiralling years. China took over as Asia's number one sporting Asian Games in 1982. Sonth Korea overtook Japan in

event

With hometown advanage. Japan hopes to challenge South Korea again for second spot in the medals table. But an initial target of



the world rankings, won 7-6 (7/1), 6-2 after coming hack from 1-4 down in the first set. He hreezed through the tie-breaker, broke Haarhuis in

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me early in the second set. It was tough the rest of the way. of pressure nn me.

and won 85 per cent of first serve points in the match. "I was very happy, espe-

first set," said Matsuoka, who plays Swede Nicklas Kulti in the second round Earlier in the day, British

third seed Bates fell tn American qualifier Kenny Thorne, 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 (7-4).

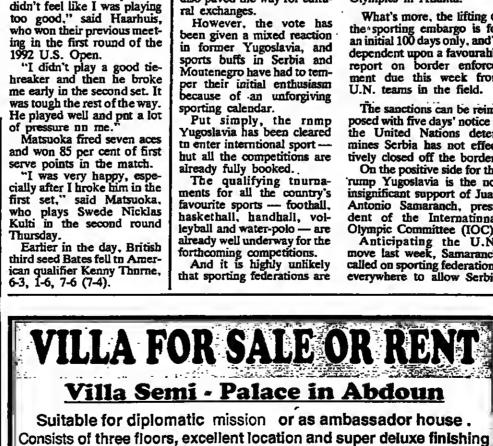


who won their previous meeting in the first round of the 1992 U.S. Open.
"I didn't play a good tie-

hreaker and then he broke He played well and pnt a lot

cially after I broke him in the

three bathrooms.







Serbia and Montenegro set for sporting return

BELGRADE (AFP) — The going to re-arrange every- and Montenegro to return to thing just to accommodate the fold, and his influence sion to allow Serhia and Montenegro back onto the

world sporting stage has hrought relief to the rump Yugoslavia, hut outrage to besieged Sarajevo. The U.N. took its decision last Friday night in recogni-tion of Serbia's fulfilment of a pledge to elose its border with territory under Bosnian Serh control. The U.N. move

ral exchanges. However, the vote has been given a mixed reaction in former Yugoslavia, and sports buffs in Serbia and Moutenegro have had to temper their initial enthusiasm because of an unforgiving

sporting calendar. Put simply, the rnmp Yugoslavia has been cleared tn enter interntional sport --hut all the competitions are already fully booked.

forthcoming competitions.

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ments for all the country's favourite sports - foothall, haskethall, handhall, volleyball and water-polo - are already well underway for the

The qualifying tnurna-

mines Serbia has not effectively closed off the border. On the positive side for the rump Yugoslavia is the not

Olympic Committee (IOC).
Anticipating the U.N.
move last week, Samaranch everywhere to allow Serbia

PARIS (AFP) — Manchester Uoited arrived in Turkey under armed guard Monday determined to prevent lightniog striking twice.

Last year, England's FA Cup and Premiership champions could only draw 0-0 at Galatasaray and were eliminated in a nightmare Europeao Champions Cup trip.

Players were allegedly beaten by police, missiles were thrown onto the pitch aod innocent fans were rounded up and imprisoned by Turkish authorities.

Eric Cantona was also sent off for dissent at the end of the match. Then he accused referees of corruption in a dressing-room interview, but later apologised to UEFA, explaining he had been mis-

The Frenchman still incurred a four-match European suspension which bars him from Wedoesday's game at the Ali Sami Yen Stadium, The British Consulate in Istanbul will be open all night

as a precaution, and Turkish police are already bracing for

Furthermore, United will

be under 24-hour armed guard from the moment they arrive till they leave Turkish

Mehmet Caglar, deputy chief of Istanbul police, said: From meetings with the British Consultate, it had been established that at least 40 known booligans will

"If we think people arriving in Istanbul could cause trouble, we have the right to deport them immediately. Three British police officers wbo know these hooligans will be at the ground to identify them.

Unned lead Group A after their exciting 4-2 win over twice UEFA Cup champions Gothenburg at Old Trafford two weeks ago.

But Welsh international

striker Mark Hughes is doubtful, baving missed the last two league games with a groin injury, and the conditions in Istanbul could not be more bostile. Manager Alex Ferguson

said: "We know it will be a ferocious experience oo and off the pitch but it can't be any worse than last time.

tion we can and I'm satisfied

we've left nothing to chance. The players know what to expect. It's an intimidating atmosphere again but we will bave to cope. My players know they let it slip last season and this is their

chance to put it right." Galatasaray may have lost 2-1 at Barcelona last time out, but the Turks' dangerous forwards easily beat the offside trap oo several occa-

Gothenburg host Barcelona in the other Group A

The Swedes showed great determination and no little skill against United but Barcelooa, fresh from a 4-0 league win on Saturday --with two goals each from Hristo Stoichkov and Gbeorghe Hagi - will be clear favourites.

French champions Paris St Germain, who previously beat Bayern Munich 2-0, bave suffered a setback as they prepare to visit Spartak Moscow in Group B.

Key central defender

Ricardo will be out for up to a month with an injured left-thigh from Friday's French league match against Auxer-re. Antoine Kombouare looks set to take his place.

Bayern, lying fourth in the German league, host Dinamo Kiev, who beat Spartak Moscow 3-2 in their first match. European champions AC Milan hope to emulate city Internationale as they take on Austrian champions Casino Salzburg at the San Siro in

Group D. Inter beat Salzburg in the UEFA Cup final last season, and AC will bave further motivation from the memory of their opening 2-0 defeat against Ajax Amsterdam.

Milan also suffered their first away defeat for six months at the weekend, going down 1-0 at Cremonese, but coach Fabio Capello is putting on a brave

"There is no crisis at Milan," he said. "We lost because of an error by the defence, who were caught out of position, and because some of our players were not

Athens, hoping that interna-donal midfielder Frank Riikaard has recovered from a rib injury he picked up on Saturday

Steaua Bucharest take on Hajduk Split and Benfica tackle Anderlecht in Group C where a goal has yet to be scored. In the first round of matches there were goalless draws between both Anderlecht and Steaua, and Split and Benfica

In the UEFA Cup, first leg defeats. Rovers' first European adventure will come to an embarrassing end in Sweden Tuesday if they fail to over-

turn their shock 1-0 defeat by

the pan-timers of Trelle-

Villa have a harder task in overcoming Inter Milan Thursday after falling victim to a dubious penalty at the

San Siro Stadium. Olympique Marseille, the 1993 European Cup winners who were relegated to the French second division after a match-rigging scandal, host Olympiakos with just one

to make volleyball faster

double faults will occur on a

team's first reception of the

ball. Under the old rules,

players were not allowed to

touch the ball with any part of their bodies under their

The new rules will be com-

pulsory for all tournaments

ATHENS, Greece (AP) -Volleyball players will be allowed to use all parts of their body, including their feet, and to touch the net accidentally after the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) approved new rules to make the game more spectacular.

"Each referee's interruption is an obstacle to keeping the interest of the spectators and viewers," FIVB President Ruben Acosta told a news conference on Monday after the federation's 24th congress adopted the rule changes.

"We must repeatedly commit ourselves to reducing to a minimum the interruptions. making them only wben

necessary," he said. Players will now also be allowed to serve at any point along the endline and no

NEW YORK (AP) - Jennifer Capriati's loog-awaited re-turn to tennis is being de-

Capriati will not play the

European indoors tourna-

ment at Zurich, Switzerland,

next week because of a groin

injury, the WTA tour

ward to playing next week in

Zuricb and returning to the tour," Capriati said. "This is

disappointing, but I'm confi-

dent that I will be playing

Biggins, an assist to Perry,

said Capriati hadn't with-

drawn from the tournament.

Perry didn't return telephone

messages left Monday by the

In ber last match, Capriati

lost in the first round of the

1993 U.S. Open. She had

planned to return to the

Associated Press.

Earlier in the day, Dawn

"I was really looking for-

announced Monday.

again soon.'

beginniog after Jan. 1 next year. Tournaments that begin before the end of this year with the old rules may continue the same rules into next vear. Acosta said.

> The Athens congress also approved of a six-year plao med at centenial year.

Which are our most important goals? To professionalise the activity of all national federations in order to achieve greater economic independence which is imperative for rapid developmeot" of the sport, Acosta

He said that \$15 million had been budgeted for the project which the federation dubbed world plan 2001.

"If in some years you come to realise that volleyball bas become the most important sport in the world, do not think of this as a pure chance of cirucmstance. Acosta said. announcing the prog-

The world volleyball champiooship will be held in Athens and the northern Greek city of Salonica from Thursday, Sept. 29, through Saturday, Oct. 8.

Sixteen countries are taking part. They are Italy; Brathe United States, Germany, Argentina, Canada, Russia, Algeria, Greece. Cuba, China, Korea, Japan, Swedeo Holland and Bulgar-

Uruguayan signing pays Ipswich immediate dividends

LONDON (R) — The buzz around Portman Road as long-haired Uruguayan international Adrian Paz came onto the field Saturday took Inswich's long-suffering fans

back more than 10 years. The feeling of belief reminiscent of the early 1980s when Ipswich were conducted from midfield by Dutchmen Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijsen was palp-

And Paz, recruited as a saviour for a side that barely escaped relegation last season, did not let the fans down after manager John Lyall had gone to fetch him from Argentina where he was playing for Estudiantes de la Plata on loan from Penarol of

'I'm very happy, because this is important in the fight against relegation," Paz said after inspiring Ipswich to a 3-2 upset victory over champions Manchester United.

"I'm happy because it was the first time 1pswich have won at bome in seven months," he said in a telephone interview from his Ipswich hotel after the

"My main aim is to try to help Ipswich finish higher than last season." Ipswich avoided the drop by one

(\$1.4 million), is hoping for better luck at Ipswich than Estudiantes, baving failed to help the former world club champions avoid relegation in Argentina last month.

way and possibilities of a move to Mexico or Germany

as well. But I preferred Eng-

Ipswich, who last won at home Feb. 22, are nine places off the bottom of the Premier League table after their second win of the season they won away, 2-I at Queen's Park Rangers, a month ago.

Paz, signed for £900,000 United pulled back to 2-2

"I had a good season any-

land," he said,

Before Saturday's victory, with two goals from Paul Mason and one from Steve Sedgley, Ipswich had scored only five in six league match-

before Sedgley struck the winner 10 minutes from time. The champions' defeat, their second of the season, left them six points adrift of leaders Newcastie.

Paz was only sure of making his debut as late as Friday when his international clearance came through. He was finally granted a work permit Thursday, three weeks after arriving in Britain, despite his

Credentials of 24 caps for

His Ipswich teammates, including new Dutch .. singing Claus Thomsen from Aerhus, responded to his mere pre-

"We had not played any football together before. I couldn't do that until I'd got the work permit," he said. 'All I'd done was simple training. I hadn't played a match for five weeks.

Although Manchester United - "they impressed me a lot, they are a well balanced team," Paz said - dominated, every time the Uruguayan carried the ball forward, Ipswich fans sensed something was about to hap-

'I don't feel any pressure from being thought of as a saviour," the 25-year-old Uruguayan said. "I slotted in well and made some good

moves. But Páz admitted the found the pace much quicker n tbe English game.

He was injured shortly before halftime — the free kick led to Mason's and Ipswich's second goal which put them 2-0 up — and needed pain-killing injections during the interval.

"I'm worried because I sprained my knee and my ankle and they could take some time to get better," he said, adding he would not like to miss next weekend's

womeo's tour at Zurich. Burned out by tennis and despairing over her appearance and relationships, Capriati, who turned pro when

> killing herself. Capriati said she had nightmares after losing in the open in 1991 and began crying after the '93 latest loss.



Jennifer Capriati

"I started out OK, but at the end of the match I couldn't wait to get off the court," she told the newspaper, "Totally, mentally, I just lost it, and obviously it goes deeper than that one match.

"I rerally was not happy she was 13, told the newspap- with myself, my tennis, my er she once thought about 'life, my parents, my coaches, my friends....When I looked in my miror, I actually saw this distorted image: I was so

Capriati, 18, believes many of ber problems stem from turning professional too ear-

"I was always expected to be at the top, and if I didn't win, to me that meant I was a loser," she said. "I felt like else thought that tennis was the way to make it in life, they thought it was good, but I thought no one koew or wanted to know the person who was behind my tennis

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF 1993 Tribune Media Services inc

SAFE ON THE DIAMOND

Both vulnerable. South deals. NORTH + Q 7 6 5 A 9 7 5 4 J 2 ÷ J̃ ā EAST WEST 9837 QJ 10 5 * 4 * K 8 6 2 . Q 7 6 4 5 4 A K S 7 2 4 10 9 6 5 SOUTH + A K J 10 3 A K 10 9 8 3

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+ Q 4 The bidding: South West North East 1: Pass 1 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of &
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writer is an easy one? Suppose that
someone boasted bow brilliantly
this deal was played or defended. Would you accept their word for it? Study all four hands and decide whether you would rather play or defend four spaces.

The auction is straightforward. South, loaded with playing tricks, is fully worth a jump to game once spades are supported. The defenders cash the king and ace of clubs. West then shifts to the queen of hearts. Dummy wins, you cash two high spades in hand and East discards a club. Whose side are you on?

If you elect to play, it's easy, looking at the cards, to take the diamond finesse. Not blessed with X-ray vision suppose you try to cash two high diamonds, West ruffs and exits with a trump and down you go. It's no better if you choose to lead a low diamond to the jack. East wins and returns the suit and West's ruff is the setting trick.

the setting trick.

Better is to cash one bigh diamond and then lead a low diamond to the jack. If West ruffs, or if West discards and East wins the queen, you are home free. Trust us, but try it for yourself, However, the defendence of the property of the set of ers can prevail if East allows the jack of diamonds to win! Locked in dummy, you have to surrender trump control to get back to your

hand.

Does that mean you should defend? Not at all. The safest line is to cash the king of diamonds, jettisoning the jack from the table and continue with the ten! No matter what the defenders choose to do they will have salve more room tick. You ruff the get only one more trick. You ruff the heart return and run winning dia-monds at West. Whenever the de-fender chooses to ruff, you overruff with the queen, return to hand with a trump and make the rest of the

Top Romanian women strike over pay

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's women's gymnastics team, stars under communist rule and still among the world's best, bave gooe on strike claiming the new government is not rewarding

them for tHeir success. Coach Octavian Bellu told Reuters Tuesday his "girls," the current European champions, had walked out of the training ball just two months before the world team championships in Dortmund, Ger-

"Our young gymnasts told me two days ago their decision to interrupt the in-door training sessions," he said.
"My girls told me they don't want to work indoors.

They will work only out-

doors, joggiog and so on but no training and no performing until this is resolved." Bellu said. Lavioia Milosovici, 18. double gold medallist at the Barcelona Olympics and 1994

vault, said the government could not expect lifetime devotion without reward. "I can't work years and years for nothing." Milosovici said. "My family are building a bouse and I need to

send them money." Bellu dislikes the term "strike" but said he sympath-

ised with the team. "Even though they are the most famous of Romania's performers, for five months they haven't had the money prizes promised for their high success at the international contests on the spring," said Bellu, speaking from the Deva Olympic Gymanstics Centre.

Teo international-standard gymnasts are training at Deva, one of the so-called "performance plants" built as a communist show-case to produce some of the best athletes in the world including 1976 Montreal Olympic gold medailist Nadia Comaneci — first to win a perfect "10" in gymnastics.

Apart from Milosovoci,

Gina Gogean, 17, was gold medallist in the vault at Brisbane and became three times European champion in Stockholm. The pair believe they are entitled to about 42 million lei (S24,000) each for their achievements.

"All our gymnasts are morally wounded," Bellu said. "They are all of them convinced that the sport and youth ministry deceived them. When you are fighting for gold medal this is a deadly barrier to be the best in the world again," Bellu said.

An embarrassed Nicolae Marasescu, state secretary of the youth and ministry, promised to come up with the money as soon as possible. He blamed "artificial

financial barriers" and

bureaucracy.

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U.S. ambassador not returning to Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Mark Hambley's departure early this month after only seven months on the job reflects a serious strain in relations between the United States and Lebanon, several Beirut newspapers claimed Tues-

The Lebanese government confirmed late Monday that t had been notified that Mr. Hambley, who left Beirut unannounced three weeks ago. was not returning to bis post. The U.S. State Department attributed Mr. Hambley's departure to unspecified health reasons, the Foreign Ministry said in a terse state-

But many Beirut dailies claimed Lebanon's refusal to undertake peace talks with Israel without the support or knowledge of its main ally, Syria, was behind Mr. Hamb-

ley's departure.

Syria is the dominant power in Lehanon, with 40,000 troops stationed in northern, eastern and central Lebanon as peacekeepers to prevent the reignition of the 1975-1990 civil war.

Lebanon's leaders have repeatedly said the country's progress on the peace track was inseparable from that of Syria, which demands Israel's withdrawal from South Lebanon and from the strategic

Golan Heights.
The leftist Al Safir said relations between Lebanon and the United States began to sour wben Washington blocked a U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss Lebanon's complaint about a June 2 Israeli air attack on a Hizbollah hase in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Up to 50 people were killed.

Hizbollah has heen spearheading a guerrilla war to drive Israel from a border enclave it has occupied in South Lebanon since 1985 as "security zone".

Relations worsened when tbe United States turned down a request by Lebanese President Elias Hrawi for a meeting with President Bill Clinton at the White House, suggesting instead a meeting on the tringe of the U.N. General Assembly session in New York, Al Safir said.

Mr. Hrawi rejected the U.S. suggestion on the grounds the issues to be discussed were far too important to be handled in a hrief en--counter at the U.N. headquarters. Al Safir added. Al Safir and other Beirut dailies called the U.S. prop-

osal a bumiliating snub "Lebanon may be a pinpoint on the map but it refuses to be a banana republic or an American ranch owned hy a cowboy who is only good at drinking whisky and sbooting his gun," said columnist Rajeb Khoury in the preste-gious Al Nahar.

Publisber Aouni Kaaki of the pro-Syrian Al Sharq said Mr. Hrawi's refusal to meet Mr. Clinton in New York was not intended to make America an enemy but rather to defend Lehanon's digui-

Al Safir said Mr. Hambley's departure heralded a sweeping reshuffle of U.S. embassy staff in Beirut linked to the Middle East peace ກegotiations.

It said Mr. Hambley's reports on Lebanon's stance in the talks had "irked some pro-Israeli officials" in the Clinton administration, who labelled him as too sympathetic to Lebanon.

Al Safir and other news-papers said Mr. Hambley's departure was followed by the recall of the embassy's senior political officer, David Hale, which will be followed soon by the departure of Charge d'Affaires Vincent



KING MEETS BILTAJI: His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received at the Royal Court Egyptian Minister of minister conveyed to the King greetings from President Hosni Muharak and discussed with the King Egyptian-Tourism Mandouh Biltaji. During the meeting, attended by Tourism Minister Mohammad Adwan, the visiting Egyptian Jordanian cooperation in tourism (see story on page 3)

Arab League assails Iran in islands row

CAIRO (AFP) — The Arab League on Tuesday condemned Iranian threats that it could resort to military force in its growing dispute with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over three strategic Gulf islands.

"Recent Iranian declarations are beightening the ten-sion in this fragile region of the world and do not go hand in hand with the Arab desire to improve relations with Iran," said the League spokesman Talaat Hamed.

He said that the UAE proposal to let the International Court of Justice rule in the dispute "conforms to the principles of international law and shows the emirates' desire to solve peacefully" the problem.

The proposal backed by

the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has been rejected by Iran.
On Monday Tehran
ordered veterans of the 1980-

1988 Iran-Iraq war to report for military training, as Iranian leaders repeated warnings to the UAE over its elaims to sovereignty over Ahu Musa, Greater Tunh and Lesser Tunh.

The UAE has accused Iran of annexing Ahu Musa in 1992 which since 1971 had been jointly administered by Tehran and the UAE emirate of Sharjah in line with a British-Iranian agreement.

Abu Dhabi later laid claim to the other islands which all lie at the entrance to the vital Hormuz Straits in the Gulf. Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdul

Meguid will press the U.N. General Assembly in New York 'to confirm the UAE's right to recover their sovereignty over the three Arah islands," Mr. Hamed added.

The UAE and its partners in the GCC urged Tehran last week to accept international arbitration on the island dispute following the collapse of bilateral negotiations in 1992.

But Iranian Chief Justice Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi bas reaffirmed his country's sovereignty of the islands, which he said "helonged to Iran even before the UAE existed as an independent

country. "Remember what happened to Iraq: "A country more important and militarily stronger than all of you put together," he warned... The UAE news agency WAM said Tuesday that India supported the UAE decision to seek international arbitration in the dispute.

UAE Foreign Ministry Acting Under-secretary Saif Said discussed the dispute with Indian Foreign Office Under-Secretary Salman Haidar, the official agency

Mr. Said briefed the Indian official on the UAE's intention to refer "the subject of the three UAE islands occupied by Iran to the International Court of Justice," it

"The Indian official expressed his country's support for the idea of refering this dispute to the International Court of Justice," it said.

3 scientists awarded U.N. environment prize

nairobi (AFP) — M.S. Swaminathan of Iodia and Paul and Anne Ehrlich of the United States have been awarded the 1994 U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) prize for their life-long work dedicated to the protection of the environment, a UNEP statement said. It said UNEP's Selection Committee had decided to award the Sasakawa Environment Prize to the three world-renowned scientists due to their great contribution to the improvement of the quality of life on this planet. Mr. Swaminathan, the director of the Centre for Research on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development, in Madras, India, has for the past 40 years played a pivotal role in the conservation of biological di-versity. The Erlichs, based at Standford University in California, have become leading authorities on population and the environment and their work has had on unparalleled impact on the field of environmental science and policy, the statement said. The Sasakawa Prize, worth \$200,000, is one of the most prestigious environmental awards in the world, and its past winners have included Chico Mendes, the rubber tapper from Brazil who died leading the fight against cat-tle ranchers' destruction of the rainforest, and Lester Brown, the director of Worldwatch Institute, whose writings have been instrumental in alerting the world about the threats to the biosphere. The official award ceremony will be held in San Francisco, California, on Nov. 10.

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Erred cancer diagnoses affect 43 patients

WELLINGTON (AFP) - A pathologist suffering from Parkinson's Disease misdiagnosed the cancer biopsies of 43 patients, including six who had unnecessary mastecmies, a health authority revealed Tuesday. The state-owned Good Health Wanganm (GHW), based north of Wellington, ordered a review of all cancer biopsies after it discovered the errors committed by pathologist James Burkinshaw. Dr. Burkinshaw, who has retired, was found to be suffering from Parkinson's Disease, a progressive disease of the nervous system. GHW said in a statement that it had completed a review of more than 4000 cases. Serious errors in diagnosis led to six unnecessary mastectomies, 15 cases where cancer existed but was not diagnosed, and one unneeded hysterectomy. In the third and final batch of tests, 722 biopsy cases were reviewed and a further 15 serious misdiagnoses were disc-

Kenyan MP

NAIROBI (AFP) — A Kenyan opposition member of parliament has been sentenced to a 12-month jail term for forging government docu-ments, local newspapers said Tuesday. A magistrate's court here found Otieno K'Opiyo, MP for the opposition FORD-Kenya Party, guilty of forging a government veterinarian's certificate to allow him to export beef. Mr. K'Opiyo committed the offence before he was elected MP in December 1992. He will lose his seat for failing to attend parliament

SEOUL (AFP) — Roger Clinton, pop singer and step-brother of U.S. President Bill Clinton, will sing at concerts m South Korea next month to raise funds for the handicapped, the show's organizer said Tuesday. Mr. Clinton will perform twice in Seoul on Oct. 22 and 23, with local singers joining in the concerts to be organised by the non-profit North East Asia Studies Institute, a spokesman for the institute said. He will also meet with government officials and throw a party in downtown Seoul on Oct. 24 to celebrate the publication of the Korean-language edi-tion of Reading With My

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab League seeks Chinese help at U.N.

CAIRO (AFP) - The Arah League has urged China to block Israeli attempts to change U.N. resolutions concerning Arab and Palestinian causes, the local Middle East News Agency reported. "The Arah League has asked China to continue its support for the just Arah causes...and to block any Israeli attempts to drop (U.N.) resolutions linked with the Palestinian cause from the (U.N. General Assembly's) agenda," MENA quoted Saied Kamal, assistant secretary general at the league, as saying. Mr. Kamal was speaking to journalists after meeting China's Amhassador to Egypt Yang Fu Chang. The U.N. General Assembly opened its 49th session last Tuesday. China is a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. Israel and the United States bave tried in other General Assembly meeting to drop or modify U.N. resolutions concerning Jerusalem, Palestinian refugees, dismantling Israeli settlements and the occupation of the Syrian Golan and southern Lebanon, calling them "obsolete." Egypt and the Arab League on Sunday said they would block the American and Israeli attempts. Foreign Minister Amr Musa said the resolutions "are not to be touched," while Arab League Deputy-General Adnan Omran said the Assembly's) agenda," MENA quoted Saied Kamal, assis-Arab League Deputy-General Adnan Omran said the attempts bave "no judicial foundation."

Saddam blasts U.S. intervention in Haiti

NICOSIA (AFP) — Iraq's President Saddam Hussein bas accused the United States of trampling on human rights while claiming to protect them by intervening in Haiti, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. The agency, moni-tored bere, said that President Saddam told a cabinet meeting that Washington wanted to occupy Haiti and impose a political regime on it hy force. "What threat is this small country to the national security of the United States," said the Iraqi leader. He asked, "Why imperialist governments do not resort to dialogue and negotiation rather than pressure and threats if they really support the right of states to sovereignty and democracy," INA said. Human rights were not born in the United States, which massacred native Americans and enslaved Africans, but in Iraq with the code of Hammurabi in 2,000 BC, and then with the Prophet Mohammad and the Koran, he said.

Kuwaiti security forces, Iraqis clash

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Kuwaiti security forces and Iraqi infiltrators have exchanged gunfire along the northern desert border, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported Tuesday. In the past two days Iraqi infiltrators have opened fire after sneaking across the border prompting Kuwaiti police to shoot back, the daily Al Qabas said. The security forces arrested some of the Iraqis but others escaped," the paper added. There were no reports of casualties, it added, without giving further details. The reports were not confirmed by either the Kuwaiti interior ministry or the U.N Iraqi-Kuwaiti Observation Mission (UNIKOM).

Syrian newspaper blasts IAEA decision

DAMASCUS (AP) — State-run Syrian newspaper Tuesday accused the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of creating a "real danger" in the Middle East by restoring full technical assistance to Israel. "The continuation of the Israeli nuclear armament obviously binders the international moves to make the Middle East free from mass-destruction weapons," said the English-language Syria Times daily. Al Baath newspaper, mouthpiece of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, said it was a "deadly mistake" to think that Israel's armament will drag it to peace. "It is also wrong to think that the Arabs will ever accept any conditions under the brunt of Israel's possession of destructive and awful weapons," it said. "The region will remain tense and liable to unknown destiny so long as the Israelis are still clinging to the logic of power and aggression and so long as Israel's supporters are still considering Israel's security as the most important in the region," the paper said. The IAEA, the main U.N. nuclear monitoring organisation.

Beirut to free ship that carried Israeli salt

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese government has decided to release a Cypriot ship detained last year for carrying a shipment of Israeli salt into Beirut port, security sources said Tuesday. They said the government decided to release the Vassiliko Bay after all "necessary judicial steps" have been taken and after the confiscating of the salt shipment. The sources did not say when the vessel will leave Beirut, They did not say wby the Vassiliko Bay was being released but high-level Cypriot officials have on recent visits to Beirut raised the issue of the ship, detained in August 1993 for breaking the Arah trade emhargo against Israel.

Manila's labour secretary in S. Arabia

RIYADH (AP) — Manila's labour secretary is visiting Riyadh to brief Saudi officials on new measures by the Philippine government to help curtail the problem of "runaway" housemaids, diplomats said Tuesday. Some 500,000 Filipinos work in Saudi Arabia as overseas contract workers (OCWS). An estimated 75 per cent of them hold non-professional jobs which includes domestic work.

8 militants sentenced to prison in Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) - A court on Tuesday sentenced eight Muslim extremists to prison terms of up to 15 years for plotting murders and stealing gold to finance radic-al activities. Three other defendants were found inno-

Meanwhile, police arrested 50 suspected militants in raids in 'Al Minya and Assiut, provinces in southern Egypt known as strongholds of Islamic radicals trying to over-throw Egypt's secular government. .__

The past two weeks have seen an increase in battles between the radicals and police in southern Egypt. At least 18 people have been killed this month. Since 1992 when the radicals began their campaign to impose Islamic rule, more than 415 people bave died.

In Tuesday's sentencing. the supreme state security court in Banha, 40 kilometres north of Cairo, gave two men 15 years in prison, one 12 years and the rest from one to three years. As is customary in Egypt, the verdicts and sentences were announced

together. According to the prosecu-tor, the defendants belonged to an illegal group called "Al Wathikun Min Al Nasr," or those certain of victory. In 1991, they robbed a gold shop owned by a Christian, wounding three people as they opened fire on their way

They also were charged with planning to assassinate a prison official and a well-known secular writer. Both the official and the writer. Farag Foda, were later killed by another movement, Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah, or the

Islamie Group. Islamic militants bave attacked several copticowned jewelry stores saying that a religious decree from their leaders allowed theft of property from non-Muslims in order to finance the struggie for an Islamic state.

President Hosni Mubarak in late 1992 switched the trials of Islamic militants to military courts, where sentences are generally harsher and deliberations speedier. Police bave arrested a man

who was paid \$30.a month to spot tourists for Islamic militants planning to attack them, the daily Al Akhbar said Tuesday.

Ahmad Aid Hussein, who was caught in the act in Suez. said the outlawed Gamaa Al

Islamiyah paid him the wage to keep an eye out for tourist coaches, the paper said. Until now Suez, which is on the Suez Canal 135 kilometres east of Cairo, has not been the main focus of militant attacks which have

concentrated on Cairo and

the southern region of Upper

Egypt. Foreigners have been targetted by the militants. Meanwhile police continued a crackdown on militants suspected of belonging to the Gamaa and of being involved in the murder in April of a security services chief General Rauf Khairat

of Kabul University KABUL (Agencies) — totally cleared by pro-Kabul University was the Rahhani troops, Wahdat scene of intense fighting Tuesday as infantry forces of Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabhani battled the Shiite faction Hezb-e-Wahdat with small arms,

Bitter battle for control

control of the campus. "We captured the university yesterday afternoon but this morning Wahdat counter-attacked," said a pro-Rahbani frontline offic-

tanks and beavy artillery for

Fighting on the eastern front where Hezb-e-Islami is based has all but stopped and the focus of Afghan's bloody civil war has shifted to southwest Kabul, where an esti-mated 2,300 people bave been killed and up to 800 killed in two weeks.

The fighting in southwest Kabul erupted two weeks ago when Wahdat attacked their Sbute rivals, the Harakat-e-Islami faction. Later Pro-Rahbani troops sided with Harakat and ex-Premier Gul-

buddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami sided with Wahdat. But the latest surge in violence marked the first time since the start of the year that a major force of Rabbani troops have entered into a

direct fight with Wahdat. Journalists escorted by a group of these soldiers were ambushed by Wahdat as they attempted to gain entry to the American-built engineering faculty on the eastern side of the university, and were forced to retreat under rocket and Kalashnikov fire.

Contrary to assurances by Defence Ministry officials that the university had been

clearly still beld the southern perimeter of the campus, including the Institute of Technology and some dormitory blocks, as well as the adjacent Ghazi High School.

Lying face down in a grassy depression next to a large pool of fresh blood from some previously wounded soldier is hullets spat through the trees and an anti-tank rocket exploded within metres, sending a shock-wave ripping overhead, the pro-Rahbani escort were obviously taken by surprise.

After the journalists safely evacuated the campus, a soldier wearing a traditional Afghan winter greatcoat fired several rounds from his re-coilless at Wahdat in the Technology Institute, then a shower of mortar bombs was fired in return.

No injuries were inflicted upon the pro-Rabbani troops in this exchange hut one soldier said that earlier in the fighting 10 of bis comrades were wounded and two kil-

Kabul University campus is now a military hase for Wahdat. The final-year stu-dents are taking classes furth-er west at the Polytechnic Institue situated below the Intercontinental Hotel. A rocket exploding there last week killed 10 people, including five lecturers. Most, but not all, civilians

bave evacuated the area from Dehmazang Square to Salaam Hill behind the university, where row after row of homes show some sign of destruction from artillery fire.

|S. Arabia says 110 held, some will be released

Saudi Arabia bas announced the arrest of 110 "agitators." The Interior Ministry, in a

statement issued late Monday accused the leaders of threatening state security and seeking to spread anarchy and sedition in conjunction with "suspect groups" abroad.

The government's announcement came a week after diplomats and Saudi opposition groups claimed hundreds of people had been detained in a sweep on fundamentalists agitating for stricter enforcement of Islamic law in the already puritanical kingdom. The crackdown was con-

eentrated on the fundamentalist hothed of Buraydah, in the Qasim pro-vince 400 kilometres northwest of the capital Rivadh. Before the sweep, action against the fundamentalists

had been limited to banning their clerics from preaching in public. In the last two years, about 20 Buraydah clerics bave been hanned from preaching. The Interior Ministry

announced the arrests in a lengthy statement read over state-run Riyadh Radio in which it promised to release those who pledged to reform, but threatened further action against those identified as the eaders. The ministry singled out two Muslim fundamentalist

preachers, Salman Ben Fahd Al Odeh and Safar Ben Abdul Rahman Al Hawali, as principal agitators. The two men, said to be in

RIYADH (AP) — In an un-precedented crackdown on Muslim fundamentalists, their late 30s, are university lecturers who repeatedly have refused to sign pleges to

conform to a ban on their activities. The ban sought to stop their propagation of fundamentalism through sermons, fectures, recordings, sympo-siums, fund-raising efforts and other activities deemed

incendiary. There will be no leniency with any person who contemplates disrupting the country's capabilities," the government statement said.

The kingdom "will come down with an iron fist on anyone who tries to disrupt its security so as to defend the Islamic faith and sacred shrines, and the interests of the nation," said the state-

Saudi Arabia, home of Islam's boliest shrines, is a theocratic state ruled by Islamic law, and a strong adherent to Muslim tenets. Women must be veiled, the sexes are segregated, alcohol is banned and some criminals are beheaded, in conjunction with Islamic teachings.

However, fundamentalists believe Sharia is not enforced strictly enough and want government drawn verbatim from the words of the Propbet Mohammad.

The Interior Ministry's statement detailed bow Sheikh Odeb and Sbeikh Hawaii allegedly repratedly challenged orders from the country's top Muslim theologians and security chicis

The ministry said the top theologians, or nlemas, first probed the case of the two men a year ago at the request of King Fahd,

Prices surge as food becomes scarce in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — A rush on staple foods is pushing up prices in Baghdad as Iraqis scramble to cope with a government decision to cut rations by as much as half.

The government decided on Sunday to reduce food rations, blaming a poor harvest and continuing U.N. trade sanctions, imposed to punish Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

rations staved off starvation and made available around half a person's basic needs at give-away prices. "It is very worrying, particularly for children in poor families," Thomas Ekval, United Nations Children

Fund (UNICEF) representa-

tive in Iraq, told Reuters. He feared an increase in

Meagre as they were, the

malnutrition. Each Iraqi will now receive

every month six kilogrammes of flour instead of nine kilogrammes, 1.25 kilogrammes of rice instead of 2.5 kilogrammes, 750 grammes of sugar instead of 1.5 kilogrammes. and 625 grammes of cooking oil instead of 750. The U.N. hands out its

own food rations to about half a million Iraqis it terms "destitute persons" and almost twice that number in northern Iraq, now under Kurdish rebel control. Mr. Ekval said the cut back would reduce each person's

daily intake of calories and protein by as much as half. Civil servants and members of the armed forces will receive 2,000 dinars a month each to meet the shortfall.

But the decision bad an immediate impact on prices which reached unprecedented levels on Tuesday. Prices almost doubled,

making it impossible for salaried people to make up for the cut in their rations. The official exchange rate is about 500 dinars to the

dollar and the illegal black-market between 600 to 700. Flour almost doubled to nearly 200 dinars a kilogrammes, sugar from 230 dinars a kilogramme to about 500. Prices of items dropped in the new rationing system, like razor blades, matches, sbaying cream, salt and tooth paste also doubled

The government said the measure was to "organise economic conditions" and

urged the Iraqis to remain "steadfast" and be patient. But it seems the decision, the barshest since sanctions came into force more than four years ago, was taken when it became clear that the embargo would not be eased or lifted soon as earlier

thought. The official press lambasted the United States, which it said was behind efforts to maintain the stiff regime of sanctions intact despite Baghdad's-cooperation with the U.N. on dismantling

of its big weapons.

Baghdad newspapers carried a speech by President Saddam Hussein in which he lashed out at the West, describing it as "immoral, bankrupt, bloodthirsty, vicious and hypocritical,

jailed for forgery

during his stay in prison.

Clinton's half-brother to sing in S. Korea

Heart, a portrait of his mother, Virginia Kelly.